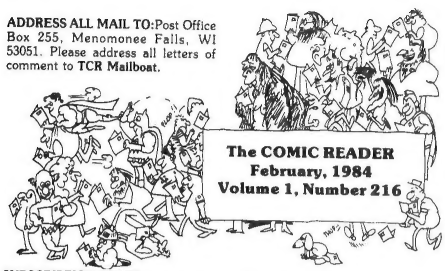
ST
$1.95
$2.25 IN CANADA
the COMIC READER
Number 21
Feb. 1984
NO MORE NICE GUY!!
STAN GOLDBERG ©

ADDRESS ALL MAIL TO: Post Office Box 255, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051. Please address all letters of comment to **TCR Mailboat.**



OUR COVERS: An unusual look at the Archie characters by Stan Goldberg was provided to us by Robin Snyder. All characters are © Archie Comic Publications. The back cover features ex-Charlton heroine Nightshade by Greg Guler and Bil Fugate. She is © DC Comics. Color scheme and seperations are by Bob Staszak.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

All copies are mailed in an illustrated protective envelope. Subscription orders must be accompanied by payment in U.S. funds, drawn on a U.S. bank. No foreign checks or funds, please.

North America [Second Class Mail]
6 issues: $6.25 12 issues: $12.00

North America [First Class Mail]
6 issues: $9.75 12 issues: $19.00

Overseas [2nd Class/Surface Mail]
12 issues: $14.50

Europe, South America [Air Mail]
6 issues:$17.00 12 issues: $32.00

Africa, Asia, Australia [Air Mail]
6 issues: $19.75 12 issues: $38.00

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

Don't trust the Post Office to forward your mail, they may just trash it! Inform us of your move at least three weeks beforehand to assure delivery.

WHOLESALE ORDERS:

TCR is available to shops and distributors at the following discounts: 20-49 copies are $1.08 each (45% off) prepaid, 50-399 copies for $0.97 each (50% off) payable two weeks after shipping, and for over 400 copies contact us for rates. **TCR** is also distributed by:

Andromeda Publications
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Bud Plant, Inc.
Grass Valley, CA and other outlets
Capital City Distributors
Madison, WI and other outlets
Diamond Comics Distributors
Baltimore, MD and other outlets
Glenwood Distributors
Colliswood, IL
Longhorn Books
Dallas, TX
Second Genesis Distributors
Portland, OR
Styx Comic Service
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
Titan Distributors, Ltd.
London, England

Table Of Contents

Marvel News 3
DC News 6
Aardvark-Vanaheim News 10
Peific Comic News 10
Archie News 11
First Comics News 12
Collecting Comics: Whitman 13
Bullet Crow, Fowl OF Fortune 16
Captain Kentucky 17,18,47,48
TCR Mailboat 19
TCR Message 23
Et Al 23,50
Eagle Comics News 25
Obituaries 25
Capital Comics News 27
Eclipse Comics News 27
Comico Comics News 29
Kitchen Sink Comics News 29
Americomics News 29
A Comic Reader 29
Pocket Checklist 31
DC Coming Comics 34
Marvel Coming Comics 41
Whitman Comics News 46
Charlton Comics News 46
Marvel Books 50
Comics History: Sub-Mariner 51
The Comic Book Hall of Fame 56
Humorously Speaking 59
In Retrospect 60
Cel Break 62

BACK ISSUES:

Issues #101 (November 1973) to date have been published by Street Enterprises. Up to issue 163 they were digest sized, with #164 the current comic book sized format was adapted. Issues not listed are sold out.

$0.50 each: #94,95,98,100-111,113, 116,118,120-124,126-128,131, 133-135,137-139,143
$0.75 each: #145-163
$1.25 each: #164,165,167-171,173-184,186-194,196-199
$2.00 each: #200-214

JEROME L. SINKOVEC
Publisher-Managing Editor
MICHAEL TIEFENBACHER
Executive Editor
JAMES ENGEL
CHUCK FIALA
Artists In Residence
PAULETTE CARROLL
European Comics
JIM KORKIS
Animation
SAM KUJAVA
Commentary
RON MASSENGILL
Licensed Toys And Games
JACOB MORAINE
Comic Strips
GENE REED
Interviews
KENO DON ROSA
Information Center
MARK SABLJAK
Books
RONA BLABBIT
Media
LOU MOUGIN
STEVEN ROWE
Correspondents

CONTRIBUTIONS OF ARTICLES OR ARTWORK: Unsolicited material should be accompanied by return postage if you wish the work to be returned. Artists and writers are urged to send submissions in Xerox® form only to avoid the possible loss or damage of the originals in the mail.

ADVERTISING RATES:

All advertising must be camera ready, proportional sized and prepaid. For any other details, please contact us. Only two sizes are used: Full Page: $58.00 Half Page: $30.00

ADVERTISING DEADLINES:

Issue 217 2/13
(March issue, out in February)
Issue 218 3/5
(April issue, out in March)
Issue 219 4/9
(May issue, out in April)

The COMIC READER [USPS No. 474—630] is published monthly by Street Enterprises, N92 W17420 Appleton Avenue, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051. Phone: (414) 251-6933. Printed by Shinners Publications, Inc. Second Class postage paid at Menomonee Falls, WI 53051. Entire contents, except where otherwise noted, are © by Street Enterprises. All Rights Reserved.

MARVEL NEWS

As some old philosopher once said, "Phew, you've sure let it pile up around here, ain'a?" (That's a Milwaukee philosopher, folks; we've got words around here you've never used.) So I suppose, given that fact, we should be methodical and ordered about this or its going to be three pages of chaos. Herewith is the departmentalized Marvel news:

CANCELLATIONS

Gone from the direct-sales market as of the following issues will be **KA-ZAR THE SAVAGE** with **#34**; **MICRONAUTS** with **#59**, and **MOON KNIGHT** with **#38**. The last two are being resurrected as monthly newsstand titles in June, but **KA-ZAR** is 100% gone from our mortal coil.

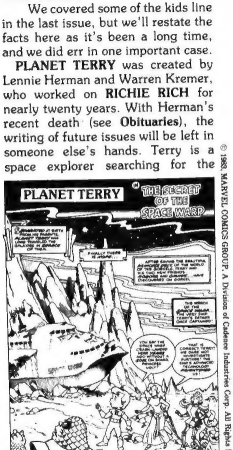
DELAYED

We've got two kinds of delays with already announced projects, those which are indefinite postponements, and those which are not. In the indefinite category are **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST**, the **DAZZLER GRAPHIC NOVEL** and **SIX FROM SIRIUS**. Delayed until February shipping is **DAZZLER #32**, and delayed until July shipping is **KITTY AND WOLVERINE**.

NEW TITLES

We covered some of the kids line in the last issue, but we'll restate the facts here as it's been a long time, and we did err in one important case.

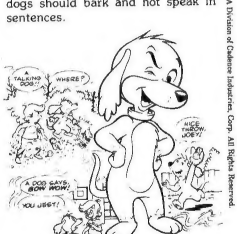
PLANET TERRY was created by Lennie Herman and Warren Kremer, who worked on **RICHIE RICH** for nearly twenty years. With Herman's recent death (see **Obituaries**), the writing of future issues will be left in someone else's hands. Terry is a space explorer searching for the parents he was separated from at birth. His companions in his travels are the Thing-like Omnus, and the feminine Robota.



© 1980 MARVEL COMICS GROUP, A Division of Cadence Industries Corp. All Rights Reserved.

ROYAL ROY is also created by Lennie Herman and Warren Kremer along with the line's editor Sid Jacobson; Roy is a king's son with all the trappings.

TOP DOG is also a Lennie Herman-Warren Kremer creation, and features a talking dog in a world where that is unusual; he doesn't know that dogs should bark and not speak in sentences.



© 1980 MARVEL COMICS GROUP, A Division of Cadence Industries Corp. All Rights Reserved.

TOP DOG

WALLY THE WIZARD is by Bob Bolling, most noted as the artist on the early issues of **LITTLE ARCHIE**. Wally is a medieval sorcerer's apprentice.

THE MUPPETS is to be a series begun with an adaptation of the group's new movie, **THE MUPPETS TAKE MANHATTAN**. Though contracts with Jim Henson have not yet been signed, Marvel felt confident enough to announce their plans.

FRAGGLE ROCK is another Henson property which would be based on the series currently appearing semi-weekly on HBO. Apparently, there is no concern that most big-city children where cable has not yet been connected wouldn't have any idea who the book is about.

THE MICRONAUTS, as mentioned above, will receive their new book in June, which will be a monthly, and apparently no different from the current title. The regular artist will be Kelley Jones.

MOON KNIGHT is in the same position as **MICRONAUTS**, both of which will begin over with **#1**.

KULL THE CONQUEROR will return as a regular bi-monthly book with **#5**, out in April. Alan Zelenetz will script, and John Buscema will pencil and ink the book.

RED SONJA will also return with **#5** as a bi-monthly; it has yet to be definitely scheduled.

SOLOMON KANE will be by Ralph

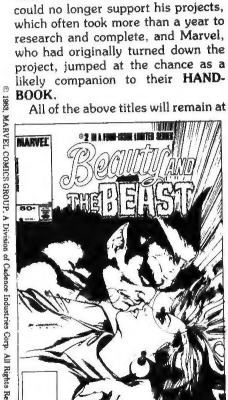
POWER PACK

© 1980 MARVEL COMICS GROUP, A Division of Cadence Industries Corp. All Rights Reserved.

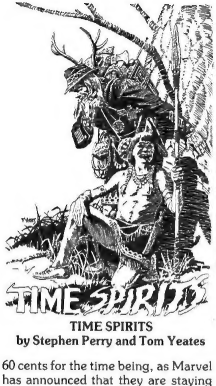
Macchio and Steve Carr and will be a bi-monthly newsstand book. The Robert E. Howard stories will be adapted chronologically, including those which have previously been adapted in Roy Thomas-edited comics.

THE OFFICIAL INDEX TO MARVEL COMICS by George Olshevsky will be a regular 32-page Baxter paper monthly. Each issue will feature one title until completion, and each will feature a cover by a Marvel artist. Interior covers will be reproduced in full color. And although all the information that appeared in the original series will be included, the format of the listings will be simplified and much easier to read, and preceding and following character appearances will be included to facilitate tracing a character's complete career, once the line has been completely indexed. The partnership of Marvel and Olshevsky came about when Pacific told Olshevsky they could no longer support his projects, which often took more than a year to research and complete, and Marvel, who had originally turned down the project, jumped at the chance as a likely companion to their **HANDBOOK**.

All of the above titles will remain at



© 1980 MARVEL COMICS GROUP, A Division of Cadence Industries Corp. All Rights Reserved.



© 1983 STEVE PERRY AND TOM YEATES

TIME SPIRITS
by Stephen Perry and Tom Yeates

60 cents for the time being, as Marvel has announced that they are staying at 60 cents (with the obvious exception of the **INDEX**) until further notice on their regular monthly comics.

NEW LIMITED SERIES

THE WEST COAST AVENGERS is a spin-off of the current **AVENGERS** storyline in which the Vision, because of the disappearance of the Avengers in the **SECRET WAR** series, has called upon other heroes to join the team. Eventually, the two groups will all get together and decide to retain a permanent squad on the west coast. Roger Stern will write the series, which has not had a definite limit set on its run.

THE BLACK PANTHER is by Peter Gillis and Denys Cowan, and would feature Black Panther battling apartheid in South Africa and a super-hero who defends his country's system, the White Avenger. It will run four issues.

THE ETERNALS will be a twelve-issue limited series by Peter Gillis and Butch Guice. The group will be pared down to a manageable few, including the original characters Ikaris, Ajak and Thena and will place its emphasis on the battle with the Deviants.

FIRESTAR will incorporate the Marvel Productions super-heroine from Saturday morning into the Marvel universe; it's a four-parter from Tom DeFalco, Mary Wilshire and Steve Leialoha. She's a mutant, folks.

LONGSHOT is an alien on Earth with amnesia, but a super-hero book nonetheless. It will be a four-issue series by Ann Nocenti, Art Adams and Bill Anderson.

SHIELD will be the subject of a twelve-parter by Tom DeFalco and Elliot Brown, who'll be sorting out the many different branches of SHIELD that have shown up over the years. Nick Fury will find himself battling the organization he's led for all these years.

NEW EPIC SERIES

THE BLACK DRAGON is by Chris Claremont and John Bolton, and is a medieval sword and sorcery series set in England. It will be a six-issue limited series; the title character is an exiled duke who moonlights as an alchemist and sorcerer.

CRASH RYAN by Ron Harris (**STAR TREK, DALLAS** newstrips) is about a 1935 pilot who's crashed a plane in which twelve people have died, but who must take to the air again to fight a worldwide menace called the Doom. It's thirties science-fiction.

THE SISTERHOOD OF STEEL is by Christy Marx and Mike Vosburg, and features an Amazon-like race of mercenaries who hire their services out all over the world.

STEELGRIP STARKEY is by Alan Weiss and a different artist (Weiss, Jim Sherman, Val Mayerik, Michael Kaluta) each issue. Steelgrip's a construction worker who has a powerful weapon of some kind.

© 1983, MARVEL COMICS GROUP, A Division of Cadence Industries Corp. All Rights Reserved.

TIME SPIRITS is by Steve Perry and Tom Yeates, and stars an American Indian named Doot and a shaman named Cusick the Tuscarora. Cusick has a magic potion that enables him to cross over to different time periods, though he doesn't do it terribly well and rarely ends up where he intends to, and Doot goes along for the roller-coaster ride.

VOID INDIGO is by Steve Gerber and Val Mayerik as previously

© 1983, CHRISTY MARX AND MIKE VOSBURG

SISTERHOOD OF STEEL
by Christy Marx and Mike Vosburg

announced; it involves an eternal battle between the Dark Lords and a barbarian named Ath'agaar, and revolves around the theory that reincarnation of the soul can occur throughout the universe, thus making the series a space-and-time-spanning one.

NEW GRAPHIC NOVELS

COYOTE by Steve Englehart and Charles Truog. No further information.

DRACULA by persons to be decided. It is not known whether this would be set in the period of the novel or alter the conclusion to the character which has occurred in **DR. STRANGE.**

SPIDER-MAN by Berni Wrightson.

TALES OF ASGARD by Charles Vess. This would realign the established legends in the current style of Walt Simonson.

The prices on the limited series under the Marvel imprint will be 75 cents and they will appear on Mando paper. The Baxter paper Epic comics will remain at their current price of $1.50.

CREDIT CHANGES

Bill Sienkiewicz will be the regular artist on **THE NEW MUTANTS** as of **#18**. Sienkiewicz originally was going to do only two issues, but now may do six or more in the series, his first regular book since **MOON KNIGHT.**

Both Roger Slifer and John Romita, Jr. will be leaving **THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN** in favor of Tom DeFalco and Ron Frenz. Frenz was the artist on the back-up story in the title during the Assistant Editors' Month which received critical acclaim, "The Kid Who Collected

Spider-Man."

John Byrne will relinquish his writing chores on **THE THING** because of the press of other projects. He will be replaced as of **#14** by Mike Carlin, who'd been assistant editor on the book; all of the storyline Byrne had planned will be followed to its conclusion as the "Rocky Grimm, Space Ranger" series continues. The continuity will remain tight between **THE THING** and **FANTASTIC FOUR** and the art team will remain Ron Wilson and Joe Sinnott.

Bob McLeod will be replacing Ron Frenz as regular penciller of **STAR WARS** as of **#87**, though he will have done issues **#83** and **85** as fill-ins prior to that. Tom Palmer will remain the inker.

Harlan Ellison and Arthur Byron Cover have collaborated on a fill-in story for **DAREDEVIL #208** called "The Deadliest Night of My Life." The opportunity arose when Denny O'Neil had to go into the hospital and could not handle the book that month. It will be drawn by David Mazzucchelli and Danny Bulanadi.

Greg LaRocque will be doing full pencils on **MARVEL TEAM-UP** as of **#144.**

Newcomer Alan Rowlands will be the regular writer on **POWER MAN AND IRON FIST** as of **#105**. Greg LaRocque and Andy Mushynsky will do the art.

THE SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN will be getting an alternating roster of artist beginning with **#102**, which is by Gary Kwapisz and Ernie Chan, followed by Val Mayerik, Pablo Marcos and Chan. Michael Fleisher is the regular writer.

G.I. JOE will feature a merry-go-round of artists: Russ Heath is doing a rare art job for **#24**, Frank Springer is doing **#25**, and Steve Leialoha is handling **#26.** The book is incorporating new characters seen on TV or

1985 MARVEL COMICS GROUP, A Division of Cadence Industries Corp. All Rights Reserved.

slated to become dolls, among them new member Duke and villain Zartan.

Stan Lee's little brother Larry Lieber will be doing **THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF INDIANA JONES #19**, both script and art. Vince Colletta will ink. He'll be followed in **#20** by writer Thomas Elliot and artist Luke McDonnell.

Over in **STAR WARS**, Bob McLeod's first issue will be written by Linda Grant, and the following, **#84** will be by Roy Richardson, with art by David Mazzucchelli. As the comic has moved to the end of **THE RETURN OF THE JEDI**, the characters will be involved in an effort to coordinate the Empire's division among the various planetary governments; the issues in question feature Lando Calrissian and Han Solo, respectively.

Bob Layton does the art on **MARVEL SUPER HEROES SECRET WARS #4**, which features the introduction of a future love interest of one of the heroes, who will be around for a long time to come. **X-Men** fans are supposed to watch for some occurance in the issue.

Steve Leialoha will do the full art on **DOCTOR STRANGE #67.**

MARVEL FANFARE #15 will feature a solo **Thing** story written, pencilled and inked by the elusive Barry Windsor-Smith.

KA-ZAR #32 will feature a front cover by Paul Neary and John Rubinstein, and a back cover by John Byrne.

A new addition to the editorial staff is Peter Sanderson, who will assist Ann Nocenti on **STAR WARS, THE X-MEN** and **THE NEW MUTANTS.** Sanderson has been a researcher at both Marvel and DC, working on both companies' history/handbooks.

Bob Kessel has been named art designer of Marvel, and his first duties will be to design print advertising, house ads, Bullpen Bulletin pages and other projects as they come up.

Steve Saffel has joined the promotion staff, handling the duties previously performed by Lea Sapp. He will be our liason, so you'll know who's responsible if these sections are chock-full of news every month (hint, hint).

EPIC ILLUSTRATED has also gotten some new staff members: Robbin Brosterman has been named Art Director, Margaret Clark is now Assistant Editor, and Arlene Puentes is Editorial Assistant. Brosterman's duties extend to the entire Epic Comics line; Clark will assist Laurie Sutton on titles she edits for Epic Comics (having been Jim Shooter's assistant before this), and Puentes is still going to college.

Marc Silvestri and Geof Isherwood will be the regular art team on **CONAN THE KING** as of **#23**, with Alan Zelenetz remaining as writer.

© 1985 MARVEL COMICS GROUP, A Division of Cadence Industries Corp. All Rights Reserved.

SCREW-UPS, PRINTERS FAULT

The printer managed to screw up the pagination of the $12.95 **MARVEL TRY-OUT** book, which doesn't help the story that's started (to be completed by the purchaser) very much. Marvel inserted an explanatory sheet to correct the problem. No word as to whether a second printing is probable.

MISCELLANEOUS EVENTS

A new member will be added in **THE NEW MUTANTS #18.** Called Warlock, he's no relation to Adam Warlock, but his father will be a definitive New Mutants adversary, a villain of planet-shattering capabilities.

ALPHA FLIGHT #12 is on sale in

April and features the death of one of the major characters. We note that the press release does not say that it is necessarily one of the members of the team...

FANTASTIC FOUR #267 marks "one of the greatest tragedies ever to strike the Fantastic Four," according to the book's assistant editor, Michael Higgins. It's on sale next month.

The cast of **IRON MAN** pick up and move to Silicon Valley,California, as a new Stark electronics company is set up in **IRON MAN #184**.

Jim Shooter will be roasted February 12 in Atlanta at the Atlanta Comic Festival. Tom DeFalco, Mike Zeck, John Beatty, John Byrne, John Romita, Jr., Bob McLeod and Butch Guice will take part in the gleeful goring, scheduled to be held at 6 PM Saturday at the Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge, the site of the con. (For further information, contact Glenwood Distributors, 2997 N. Decatur Road, Decatur, GA 30033, or call Herb McCaulla at (404) 296-2683.)

There will be revelations revealed in the relationship of the reviled Moondragon and the unrevealed Cloud, as revealed by Peter Gillis, Don Perlin and Kim DeMulder.

Marvel Comics and computer-software company Adventure International will be doing a series of inter-related computer games featuring Marvel super-heroes. There will be a series of twelve games, the first out in May featuring the Hulk and Dr. Strange, which will be accompanied by a regularly-distributed comic book which provides an adventure which will be continued in some manner in the game, although neither the comic nor the game is needed to enjoy either one. John Byrne and Bob Budiansky have plotted the story, which ties into Marvel continuity, but each issue will have different writers and artists, the latter of which will be responsible for designing the graphics for the games. The series is called **QUEST PROBE** and is programmed by Scott Adams of Adventure International. Adams previously did such sequential games as **ADVENTURELAND, THE PIRATE ADVENTURE** and **SORCERER OF CLAYMORGUE CASTLE**.

The February issue of **NATIONAL LAMPOON** features a parody of the current book **THE BEAVER PAPERS** applied to Marvel's **SILVER SURFER** comic of the late '60s. The parody is both too highbrow and aimed too low to strike your editor as particularly funny, but its content, by authors Will Jacobs and Gerard Jones, is likely to be just as incomprehensible to those who get the parodies of equally esoteric prose writers.

Roy Thomas and Gerry Conway have been hired to write a screenplay for a live-action **X-MEN** film for Nelvana Productions and the Canadian Film Development Corporation, with Orion acting as the film's distributor. The budget is described as being in eight figures.

DC NEWS

Since it worked out rather well in the Marvel section, I've decided to do the same thing for the DC news. Here's their departmentalized report.

CANCELLATIONS

THE NEW ADVENTURES OF SUPERBOY #54 will be that book's final issue, its cover date being June.

SUPERGIRL #23 is the last one of that series, and it's dated September. That's just about the time that the **SUPERGIRL** movie will be appearing. Neither of these titles does well in today's fan-oriented market, but are good sellers overseas, so they will be combined. See below for details.

THE CREEPER mini-series has apparently died stillborn. Advertised as being by Keith Giffen, he has found his time occupied with two **LEGION** series, and will not be using his extra time to do this series.

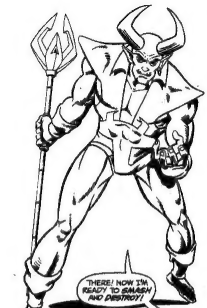
NEW GODS cover by Jack Kirby

DELAYS

THE REDEEMER remains unscheduled after being lifted from last October's releases. It will be scheduled when Joe Kubert has completed six issues.

NEW TITLES

There are many new titles coming up, but few are regular ongoing newsstand monthlies. These are the only regular series being discussed:



The Blue Devil

SUPERBOY AND SUPERGIRL, a 48-page $1.25 monthly, edited by Julius Schwartz and containing the two strips from the cancelled books above, which are both written by Paul Kupperberg. The strips will alternate lead positions, with the main story 24 pages, the back-up 16. The title has yet to be finalized.

AMETHYST will return with a new open-ended series and a new title, beginning over at **#1**. Dan Mishkin and Gary Cohn will write, but it's not certain if Ernie Colon will remain artist on the new series.

DC COMING ATTRACTIONS changed title and distribution method to **DC RELEASES**, now issued free to fans through comic shops. It's their monthly listings of upcoming comics.

SUPERGIRL MOVIE SPECIAL will appear as a one-shot in conjunction with the movie, in the same format as the **SUPERMAN MOVIE SPECIAL** last year.

New Teen Titan Jericho

Dick Grayson's new identity

SUGAR AND SPIKE by Sheldon Mayer will return as a regularly-scheduled bi-monthly in the summer of 1985. The reason for the hold-up is the thinking that it would be stupid to issue one kid's-oriented book on its own, and other kid's books in development are not far enough along to schedule for the summer of this year. The six issues per year would likely appear during the summer months and at Christmas and spring school breaktime. New stories were pulled from the last **Sugar and Spike** digest at the last minute, and no further digests are being planned.

An **ARAK ANNUAL** is being discussed. Roy Thomas would write, of course.

LIMITED SERIES

Here's where all the activity is being planned for. To wit:

THE HISTORY OF THE DC UNIVERSE will be a twelve-issue series which will run from January to December 1985, in conjunction with DC's fiftieth anniversary. Each 32-page Mando paper issue will contain 25 pages of editorial material in the form of a story, not an encyclopedia. It will be by Len Wein and Marv Wolfman, with research by Peter Sanderson and E. Nelson Bridwell. It will be preceded by...

THE DC DIRECTORY, the encyclopedia of DC's main characters, places and things. It begins this summer and will run at least 24 issues through the summer of 1986. Less text-oriented than its Marvel counterpart, the series is planned to stick to the facts and be more visually oriented. The same people involved with the **HISTORY** will do this.

SUPERMAN: THE SECRET YEARS will be a mini-series by Bob Rozakis, Curt Swan and Kurt Schaffenberger, with covers by Frank Miller. It covers the period following Superboy's parents' death and his arrival at the Daily Planet.

SUPER-POWERS is a five-issue mini-series pitting JLA members Superman, Flash, Green Lantern, Wonder Woman, Aquaman, and Hawkman along with Batman and Robin against a band of villains including Luthor, the Joker, Brainiac, and the Penguin, who are secretly working for one of the greatest evils in the universe. Some clue as to whom may be gleaned by knowing that Jack Kirby is plotting the series

and drawing the final issue; Joey Cavalieri handles the script.

WONDER WOMAN will be a direct-sales book, probably on Baxter paper, and possibly ongoing. At this early juncture, all that is known is that it will be by Steve Gerber, who will be attempting to revitalize the longest-running heroine's series. It will be published along with the regular newsstand comic, and Gerber is to be a consulting editor on that.

THE SUN DEVILS is the series mentioned here last issue as **STAR DEVILS**; it's by Gerry Conway, Dan Jurgens and Rick Magyar. Scheduled to debut in April, the series involves interplanetary war and is said to have parallels to the isolationism of the U.S. before WWII. The twelve issue series will be divided into four stories of three issues each; the covers to those issues will each comprise a separate scene made up of three drawings.

SUN DEVILS
by Dan Jurgens and Rick Magyar

THE SWORD OF THE ATOM SPECIAL will be out in April, concluding the mini-series of last year by Jan Strnad and Gil Kane. The 48-page Mando book will be $1.25.

AMERICA VS. THE JUSTICE SOCIETY is by Roy Thomas and Rich Buckler, and is scheduled to last seven issues. The first six will contain a history of the team to the present, as the heroes who will be turning bad in the **INFINITY, INC.** series due to the Stream of Ruthlessness are being tried for treason because of a diary ostensibly written by the late Batman which claims that they were pawns of Hitler from the beginning. Many of the multiple versions of characters will be dealt with in the series.

J'EMM, SON OF MARS will be a history of the Martian race, which includes J'onn J'onzz. (Unless otherwise stated, these are all news-

stand books on Mando for 75 cents.) A maxi-series, it will be by newcomer Greg Potter and is scheduled for spring release.

JONNI THUNDER is a female detective in 1984 L.A. who can turn into a human thunderbolt. It will be by Roy Thomas and Dick Giordano and the format and duration of the series have yet to be determined. Slated for the summer.

SHAZAM! may appear in 1984 or 1985, but it is supposed to be a mini-series by Roy Thomas and Don Newton which will introduce Captain Marvel to an Earth-One black super-hero bequeathed by Shazam with powers of his own.

THE BARREN EARTH, the back-up in **WARLORD**, will probably get its own mini-series in the future by Gary Cohn and Ron Randall.

HAWKMAN will appear in a mini-series by Tony Isabella and Richard Howell; its original title may be changed because of similarity to Marvel's **SECRET WARS** limited series.

UNDERWORLD is by Robert Loren Fleming and Gene Colan. It will be edited by Len Wein and is police-oriented.

Other mini-series in the works which we have less information on that are in the planning stage include **RED TORNADO, ELONGATED MAN** by Mike Barr, **DEADMAN** by Gary Cohn and Dan Mishkin, **ZATANNA** by Gerry Conway and maxi-series by Doug Moench, Alex Nino and the team of Jan Strnad and Gil Kane.

SPANNER'S GALAXY is by Nick Cuti and Tom Mandrake and would run six issues when it is finally scheduled. It involves Polaris Spanner, a fugitive who is able to teleport himself all over the galaxy.

GRAPHIC NOVELS

FIRESTORM by Gerry Conway and Pat Broderick, in a story called "Corona." The story is said to "expand the motivations of Firestorm's character in a broader fashion than he might in the letter-press edition." It's scheduled to appear in April.

THE MEDUSA CHAIN is by Ernie Colon and is described as space opera. It features the spaceship MU-109 and a locked-room mystery in space. Due out in summer.

SAMURAI, SON OF DEATH by Japanes artist Hiroshi Harata and American writer Sharman DiVono. It's described as featuring eastern themes in a western manner.

THE HUNGER DOGS by Jack Kirby will be a sequel to the series of **NEW GODS** reprints which Kirby will add a conclusion to at its conclusion. It is expected to ship late summer, obviously following the final **NEW GODS** issue (which would be either August or September).

© 1984 DC COMICS, INC.

Howard Chaykin's cover for SUPERMAN #400

TITLE CHANGES/HIGHLIGHTS

ACTION COMICS and **SUPERMAN** will both be going to 15-page lead stories with eight-page backups, as well as a return to a less fan-oriented style more in line with the style under which the book enjoyed its greatest success in the '60s and '70s. Fewer continued stories, and those will be restricted, normally, to only two issues. The back-up slots will be used to break in new writers.

NEW TALENT SHOWCASE will be going to 48 pages for $1.25, which is good news for a host of new writers and artists whose work has been piling up over the past year. The search for new talent has been called to a halt, as DC attempts to train the sixty free-lancers found during the talent search, though new submissions will be reviewed. A "How To" book is being prepared by Sal Amendola and Nick Cuti to aid aspiring professionals.

THE NEW TEEN TITANS has become simply **TALES OF THE TEEN TITANS**, and **LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES** is slated to add **TALES OF** to its name, as their direct-sales only counterparts co-opt their current titles. **TALES OF THE TEEN TITANS** changed over with **#41**; we're not sure when **LEGION** makes the switch.

The deluxe issues of **TEEN TITANS** and **LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES** will begin in August of this year. The **TEEN TITANS ANNUAL** for this year, **#3**, is out in April and will be a regular Mando book; the **LEGION ANNUAL**, on the other hand, will be a Baxter direct-only book.

The second **NEW TEEN TITANS** drug awareness book has been published and distributed to schools thanks to the National Soft Drink Association, Local Soft Drink Bottlers and DC. "Battle" is by Marv Wolfman, Ross Andru and Joe Giella. The third book in the series will be "Problem Child" by Wolfman, Joey Cavalieri and Adrian Gonzales, published by IBM and DC. It was scheduled to appear in December, but we've yet to see a copy.

Dick Grayson has been named Nightwing in his new identity and costume, a name he shares with Superman's non-powered costumed identity when he was in Kandor, and a Kandorian super-hero. A new Titan will join the group in **#44** and **TITANS ANNUAL #3**. Called Jericho, he is the son of the Terminator, but unlike him in every other way. Dick Giordano takes over as inker of the book with **#42**.

GREEN LANTERN #177 features

the debut of the Demolition Team, a new band of super-crooks, who are stopped from demolishing Ferris Aircraft not by Green Lantern, but by a character called the Predator. From the look of him, we'd guess his days as a hero are numbered.

The first issue of the bi-monthly **BLACKHAWK** is **#274** (May-June), and **JONAH HEX**'s is **#85** (June-July).

THE BLUE DEVIL #1 will be previewed in **FURY OF FIRESTORM #24**, out in March. The first issue appears in April and is by Gary Cohn, Dan Mishkin, Paris Cullins and Pablo Marcos.

This year's **DC COMICS PRESENTS ANNUAL** will be by Roy Thomas and features Superman, Captain Marvel, Captain Marvel Jr. and Mary Marvel plus a brand-new member of the Marvel Family.

ALL-STAR SQUADRON #34 features kibei (American-born Japanese educated in Japan, and thus different from either country's natives) "villainess" Tsunami, features Firebrand's new flying-fire powers, Liberty Belle, Johnny Quick, Starman and Neptune Perkins, a sea-going hero featured in two **Hawkman** stories of the late '40s. **#35** stars the six major DC heroes of the '40s, Superman, Batman, Wonder Woman, The Flash, Green Lantern and Hawkman, along with Quality's major hero Plastic Man, and Fawcett's, Captain Marvel. Rich Buckler will be pencilling **#36**, which is continued in **#37** by Arvell Jones.

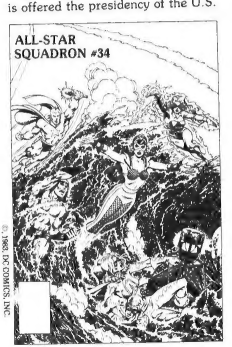
SUPERMAN #400 will be a 64-page $1.50 Mando comic on sale in July, and it will feature a painted cover by Howard Chaykin. The theme of the issue is how Superman will be remembered by future generations when fact and legend blend together as history. Elliot Maggin is writing, with art by such unlikely artists as Jim Steranko, Walt Simonson, Joe Orlando, Walt Simonson, Wendy Pini, Mike Grell, Al Williamson, Frank Miller, Marshall Rogers, John Byrne and Michael Kaluta, all artists who have not done Superman before. Some of them will draw pin-ups, others chapters of the story.

The villain scheduled to be called the Wraith in **BATMAN SPECIAL #1** was changed to the Wrath at the last minute, when Michael T. Gilbert protested the use of the name to DC. Gilbert has done a character with the prior name for a number of years.

THE BEST OF DC line-up for the next few months has been announced. **#50** will feature the best **Superman** stories of 1983; **#51** will feature **Binky and His Buddies**; **#52** will be **The Year's Best for 1983**, which will be $1.75 with added pages; **#53** will be **Funny Stuff** and the price will go up to $1.50 for regular-sized issues; **#54** will feature **Superman's Strangest Transformations.**

THE SAGA OF SWAMP THING #24 guest-stars the Justice League of America. **#25-27** guest-star the Demon. Alan Moore is the writer.

In **WARLORD #83**, Travis Morgan is offered the presidency of the U.S.



© 1983 DC COMICS, INC.

CREDIT CHANGES

Janice Race has been named new editor of **BLACKHAWK** replacing Mark Evanier, and **WORLD'S FINEST**, replacing Roger Stern. No new writer has been named for **BLACKHAWK**, but George Tuska will be the penciller.

Robert Loren Fleming has left the writing post on **THRILLER** due to disagreements with artist Trevor von Eeden. Bill DuBay will do **#8**, but no permanent writer has been named.

Klaus Janson is the colorist for the one-shot reprint of the Archie Goodwin/Walt Simonson **MAN-HUNTER** series.

Keith Giffen has pencilled and inked a war story called "Death Waits 1,000 Years" for **G.I. COMBAT #267**, out in April. Robert Kanigher did the story.

Robert Greenberger, erstwhile editor of **COMICS SCENE** and various other Starlog publications, has been hired by DC to be assistant to various editors, possibly Len Wein and Marv Wolfman.

Romeo Tanghal will ink **FURY OF FIRESTORM #24**.

Don Newton will draw both **BATMAN #372** and **DETECTIVE #539**, with Gene Colan appearing in both of the following month's issues, **#373** and **540**. The switch was made because Newton wanted to do both halves of the Dr. Fang boxing story, being a boxing fan. Alfredo Alcala inks both issues of **BATMAN**, and Bob Smith both issues of **DETECTIVE**.

BEST OF DC #49 features a front and back cover by **TCR** contributors Jim Engel and Chuck Fiala featuring the **FUNNY STUFF** characters. Fiala contributes an inside back-cover gag as well.

Jerry Grandenetti returns to do a story in the May issue of **G.I. COMBAT #265.**

THE OMEGA MEN will be taken over on a regular basis by Doug Moench with **#17**. Before that, fill-ins will be done by Todd Klein (**#14** and **16**) and Joey Cavalieri (**#15**). Alex Nino and Ricardo Villagran did the fill-in issue **#15**; Tod Smith and Mike DeCarlo remain the regular art team.

INFINITY, INC. #3 features the Infinitors vs. Solomon Grundy at the Stellar Studios owned by the Star Spangled Kid. **#5** has the team battling six JSA members who have drunk from the Stream of Ruthlessness last seen in **ALL-STAR #36** in 1947.

MISCELLANEOUS

DC has announced the marketing of two painter's caps which will feature the Justice League of America and Teen Titans characters. Both will be printed with one color on white and will cost $2.99 at your comic shops.

Hanna-Barbera _i is preparing a Teen Titans anti-drug public service announcement for TV which should appear shortly.

Elliot Maggin has announced that he is running for Congress; we don't know the district, but his many past stories dealing with government obviously reflect his longtime interest in politics.

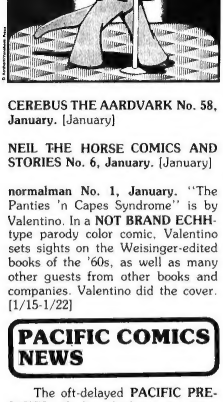
The January 1984 issue of **SAVVY, The Magazine For Executive Women** features a cover article on DC publisher Jenette Kahn. The photo-illustrated piece plays rather fast and loose with the chronology of Kahn's tenure at DC, and some of the quotes by Kahn and Paul Levitz are evidently out of context or debatable, but it's basically worthwhile reading, if you can track it down.

The second annual Wonder Woman Foundation Awards were presented November 14, 1983. Seventeen American women were given the awards at ceremonies hosted by John Chancellor and presenters Polly Bergen, Judy Collins, Lee Grant, Carol Jenkins and Jean Stapleton. Cicely Tyson received the "Woman of Courage" Award. The cash awards given to the seventeen totaled $120,000, and the nominations for the awards numbered more than 1000. Among the winners was Nicole Hollander, cartoonist of the comic strip **SYLVIA.**

AARDVARK-VANAHEIM NEWS

Dave Sim is doing a color **CEREBUS** story which will appear in **EPIC ILLUSTRATED**. The story, which is about Cerebus's early life, is being used as something of a trial balloon; if well received, Aardvark-Vanaheim is planning to do a mini-series tentatively called **UNTOLD TALES OF CEREBUS**.

The **CEREBUS RADIO SHOW**, a one-shot broadcast on Cincinnati's KFAI radio **SHOCKWAVE** program last August, is being made into an album, which will, naturally, feature Sim graphics. Further records would follow if the first goes well on the market.



CEREBUS THE AARDVARK No. 58, January. [January]

NEIL THE HORSE COMICS AND STORIES No. 6, January. [January]

normalman No. 1, January. "The Panties 'n Capes Syndrome" is by Valentino. In a **NOT BRAND ECHH**-type parody color comic, Valentino sets sights on the Weisinger-edited books of the '60s, as well as many other guests from other books and companies. Valentino did the cover. [1/15-1/22]

PACIFIC COMICS NEWS

The oft-delayed **PACIFIC PRESENTS #3** has had its contents reshuffled to facilitate shipment in January. The issue will contain Tim Conrad's **E. Erie Smith** and Will Meugniot's **Vanity** instead of Dave Stevens' **Rocketeer. The Missing Man** by Steve Ditko will round out the issue. **#4** will feature part two of **E. Erie Smith and Walter Weary**, plus two new strips: **Doc 44**, a science-fiction western by Bob Haney, Mel

PACIFIC PRESENTS...
THE WILDLY PLAUSIBLE FLIGHT OF
E. ERIE SMITH and WALTER WEARY
THE MISSING MAN
Starring BY WILL MEUGNIOT

Keefer, Ian Akin and Brian Garvey, and "Shell Game" by Bruce Jones and Helmut Eppich, with inks by Akin and Garvey. **#5** will contain a twenty-page **Rocketeer** story by Dave Stevens. It will appear in May.

The contents of **ALIEN WORLDS #7** were also changed after we listed it here: "Small Change" is drawn by Brent Anderson instead of John Totleben, "The Small World of Louis Stillman" is by Richard Corben, and "It All Fits" is by Gray Morrow instead of Jim Sullivan.

Sullivan will appear, however, in the **THREE DIMENSIONAL ALIEN WORLDS**, out in March. That issue, which comes equipped with two sets of three-D glasses, will feature four Bruce Jones stories by Arthur Adams, John Bolton, Rand Holmes and William Wray, with a three-pager called "Fair Play" by Arthur Suydam and Jim Sullivan also included. Joe Chiodo is doing the cover.

Also out in March will be a **GROO THE WANDERER SPECIAL**, 48 pages in length, it features Sergio Aragones's first **GROO** story from 1977, never-before-seen, as well as the origin of Groo's acquisition of his swords. Also included will be cut-out and special pages. As usual, Mark Evanier translates into English.

VANGUARD ILLUSTRATED is going monthly. **#5** features "Face to Face" by Tim Burgard, another chapter of **Quark** by Mike Baron and Rich Burchett with Steve Mitchell inks; "Friend in Need" by former **STAR TREK** and **DALLAS** newspaper-strip artist Ron Harris; and a two-pager by Rick Geary. Michael Kaluta did the cover.

Amazing but true: **MS. MYSTIC #2** is shipping in January. The book was originally scheduled for late 1982 or early 1983. Pacific is not soliciting orders on **#3** from dealers until writer/artist Neal Adams delivers the art to them.

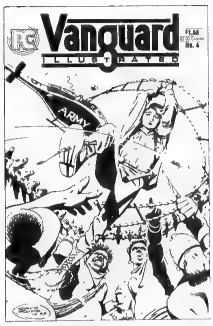
Pacific will distribute a 48-page $2.95 color comic book published by Neal Adams Continuity Studio. Continuity Comics' **ECHO OF FUTURE PAST** is a bi-monthly comic book described by Adams as a "graphic," since he feels they're neither comical nor influenced by newspaper comic strips. Featured in **#1** will be Arthur Suydam's **Mudwogs**, **Tippie-Toe Jones** by Lindley Farley, Louis Mitchell and Neal Adams, **Bucky O'Hare** by Larry Hama and Michael Golden, **Frankenstein/Wolfman/Dracula** by Neal Adams, and **Virus** by Jean Teule. Each of the strips is meant to appear on a regular basis, though not all will appear every issue. The first issue ships in March and is on sale in April.

As you may have noticed by now, the Pacific colophon has been redesigned to reflect "a general improvement of quality in our comics," according to Steve Schanes.

THE FALL OF THE HOUSE OF USHER No. 1, May. Richard Corben adapts and inteprets Edgar Allan Poe's book, with some revision. Corben did the cover. [February]

SILVERHEELS No. 3, May. The competition between Silverheels and Nazite Stephan Krauss comes to a climax in this issue by Bruce Jones and Scott Hampton. The back-up is **Flan** by Bruce Jones and Ken Steacy, a robot whose mind is stuck in the '50s mode. Hampton did the cover. [February]

SOMERSET HOLMES No. 4, May. Somerset visits a hypnotist to find out



© 1983 STEVE RUDE

about her past, and discovers something about her companion as well. Also, the third chapter in the **Cliff Hanger** serial; Bruce Jones and April Campbell wrote the stories, with Brent Anderson and Al Williamson doing the respective strips' art. Anderson did the cover. [February]

TWISTED TALES No. 8, May. Bruce Jones stories in this issue are "Way Down Below There in the Dark" by Thom Enriquez; "The Party" by William F. Nolan, adapted by Jones and Mike Hoffman, and "First Impressions" by Butch Guice. John Pound did the cover. [February]

VANITY No. 1, May. Will Meugniot handles the art and story about the adventures of Vanity and her companions Ma'nan, a huge Neanderthal with the mind of a child, and Prof, an eccentric professor, whose home base is the Fallen Star, a spaceship. In this issue, besides the origin, Vanity takes on the U.S. and the Soviet Union in a race to the moon

© 1983 MICHAEL T. GILBERT AND P. CRAIG RUSSELL

Meugniot did the cover. [February]

VANGUARD ILLUSTRATED No. 4, May. Stories in this one are "Encyclopedias" by Mike Baron and Steve Rude; "Low Level Diplomatic Activity" by Paul Neary and Michael Austin; "Tangled Web" by Ruth Raymond; and "Quark" by Mike Baron and Rick Burchett. The last-named is a super-hero strip. Rude did the cover. [February]

ARCHIE NEWS

ARCHIE DOUBLE DIGEST QUARTERLY is undergoing a title change because its frequency is being increased to bi-monthly. The **QUARTERLY** part will be dropped.

COMING COMICS

ARCHIE No. 328, March. [12/6-1/3]

BLUE RIBBON COMICS No. 6, March. In this issue: **The Fox** in "Fighting Fire With Fire" by Rich Buckler, Stan Timmons and Tony DeZuniga. The Fox goes up against an agent of Dragon Head. Buckler and Rudy Nebres did the cover. [12/6-1/3]

JUGHEAD WITH ARCHIE COMICS DIGEST No. 61, March. [12/6-1/3]

THE MIGHTY CRUSADERS No. 6, March. The Original Shield solo-stars in this issue. The three-part story is "Flaky Puff" Chapters 4 and 5 by Martin Pasko, Dick Ayers and Tony DeZuniga. The Shield continues to battle the Hun for F.B.I. secrets. Rich Buckler and Ricardo Villagran did the cover. [12/6-1/3]

LAUGH COMICS DIGEST No. 51, March. [12/13-1/10]

LIFE WITH ARCHIE No. 241, March. "The Lost Mine Shaft" by George Gladir and Dan DeCarlo, and "Split Personality" by Rich Margopoulos and Stan Goldberg, are the stories in this issue. [12/13-1/10]

PEP No. 393, March. Thunderbunny begins in a new series which is by Martin Greim, Brian Buniak and Jon D'Agostino [12/13-1/10]

ARCHIE'S PALS 'N' GALS No. 168, March. [12/20-1/17]

EVERYTHING'S ARCHIE No. 110, March. [12/20-1/17]

STEEL STERLING No. 5, March. The Young Steelers solo in the lead story by Robert Kanigher and Ed Barreto, plus Steel stars in the back-up. [12/20-1/17]

BETTY AND ME No. 138, March. [12/27-1/24]

JUGHEAD JONES COMIC DIGEST MAGAZINE No. 28, March. [12/27-1/24]

ARCHIE COMICS DIGEST No. 65, April. [1/3-1/31]

BETTY AND VERONICA NO. 329, April. [1/3-1/31]

LAUGH No. 382, April. This issue features **Katy Keene** by Robin Snyder and John Lucas. [1/3-1/31]

ARCHIE ANNUAL COMICS DIGEST No. 44, April. [1/10-2/7]

ARCHIE'S T.V. LAUGH-OUT No. 94, April. [1/10-2/7]

THE ORIGINAL SHIELD No. 1, April. The serial continues in this issue, with "End Game" concluding the story with the Hun. Begun is "Origins" a new series retelling the Shield's early days. Both stories are by Martin Greim, DickAyers and Tony DeZuniga. Rudy Nebres did the cover. [1/10-2/7]

ARCHIE AND ME No. 144, April. "Plight of the Perilous Pike" by Bob Bolling is included. [1/17-2/14]

JUGHEAD No. 333, April. [1/17-2/14]

THE FLY No. 6, April. "The Adventure of the Crooked Man" is by Robin Snyder and Steve Ditko. The back-up starring the Jaguar is by Charles Ward and Vic Catan. Rudy Nebres did the cover. [1/17-2/14]

KATY KEENE SPECIAL No. 3, April. This issue features "Katy Keene, the Pin-up Queen" by Bill Woggon from **LAUGH #27**; "Katy Keene Goes to Squaw Valley" by Woggon from **KATY KEENE PIN-UP PARADE #13**; and "Katy Keene in The History of Squaw Valley" by Woggon, also from **KKPP #13**. John Lucas did the cover. [1/17-2/14]

ARCHIE... ARCHIE ANDREWS WHERE ARE YOU COMICS DIGEST No. 31, April. [1/24-2/21]

ARCHIE AT RIVERDALE HIGH No. 96, April. "Smokescreen At Riverdale High" is by Rich Margopoulos and an artist. An anti-smoking theme is the subject. [1/24-2/21]

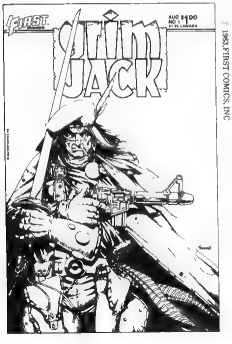
BLUE RIBBON COMICS No. 7, April. The Fox is once again the star, and stories are "Heads I Win, Tails You Lose" by Stan Timmons and Rich Buckler, Dick Ayers and Tony DeZuniga. The battle with the Eraser is resolved in this issue. Rich Buckler and Tony DeZuniga did the cover. [1/24-2/24]

LITTLE ARCHIE COMICS DIGEST ANNUAL No. 14, April. [1/24-2/24]

FIRST COMICS NEWS

The **GRIMJACK** feature graduates to its own book beginning in April. John Ostrander and Timothy Truman will continue to do the story and art on the feature, which will be replaced in the back-up slot of **STARSLAYER** by **Black Flame**, which originally appeared in **MARS**. The debut of **GRIMJACK** follows a book-length team-up of Starslayer and Grimjack in **STARSLAYER #18**, **#19** will feature a book-length **STARSLAYER** story which will follow with the first **Black Flame** story in **#20.** Ostrander and Truman will continue on **STARSLAYER** as well, with Hilary Barta beginning as inker with **#19**. **The Black Flame** continues under the aegis of Peter Gillis, Tom Sutton and Bruce Patterson **MARS** will be chiefly comprised of 28-page stories, although a three-part back-up is slated for **MARS #10**.

First's shipping schedule has been changed. Henceforth, **AMERICAN FLAGG!** and **GRIMJACK** (in April) will ship the first week, **E-MAN** and **STARSLAYER** the second, and **JON SABLE, FREELANCE, MARS** and **WARP** the fourth.



© 1982 FIRST COMICS, INC.

© 1982 FIRST COMICS, INC.

Alex Wald has been named production coordinator of First. He replaces Bruce Patterson, who will oversee production on covers, posters and graphic novels. Also, Jack McKart will be the head calligrapher, doing display lettering on all First covers and advertising, also replacing Patterson.

First has signed a merchandising agreement with Unico Industries of Arlington Heights, IL who will produce key chains, magnetic stickons and pressure-sensitive labels featuring art from First Comics comic books, posters, T—shirts and advertising. They should be appearing as you read this.

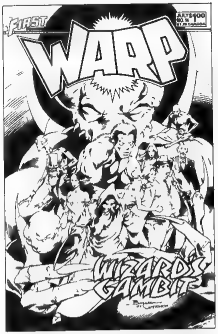
E-MAN #16, which will be shipped in March, will be the first comic from First Comics to feature a wraparound cover. Drawn by Joe Staton, the cover is shown above.

COMING COMICS

AMERICAN FLAGG No. 8, May. "Take This Job and Shove It" is by Howard Chaykin. Reuben finds hijackers and a surprising land deal in the second part of "The State Of The Union." Chaykin did the cover. [1/10-1/17]

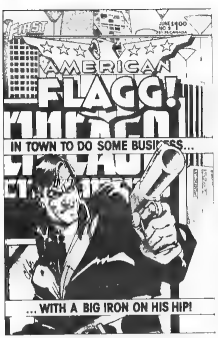
E-MAN No. 14, May. "The Wrath of Randarr" is by Joe Staton and Rick Burchett. Randarr becomes difficult when Nova arrives to replace him on Channel 99, and the detective members of the Mauser clan battle the Battery in New York. Staton did the cover. [1/10-1/17]

MARS No. 5, May. "The Whole Shebang" is by Marc Hempel and Mark Wheatley. Morgana's troubles are increased when she finally finds her friends. The **Black Flame** story is "Beyond the Night, Across the Day" by Peter Gillis, Tom Sutton and Bruce Patterson. Wheatley and Hempel did the cover. [1/17-1/24]



WARP No. 13, May. "Bid the Past Return" is by Peter Gillis, Jerry Bingham and Mike Gustovich. Sargon finds that going home again can be very difficult. Also, **The Outrider** stars in "A Heritage of Stars" by Gillis and Lenin Delsol. Bingham and Gustovich did the cover. [1/17-1/24]

JON SABLE, FREELANCE No. 12, May. "MIA—Part One" is by Mike Grell. Sable, a former Green Beret and a South Vietnamese officer sneak into North Viet Nam to find Sonny Pratt, a missing-in-action remnant of the war considered dead by the government. Grell did the cover. [1/24-1/31]



STARSLAYER No. 16, May. "S.A.M." is by John Ostrander and Timothy Truman. Tamara gets involved with Crayne as Torin returns unexpectedly. The **Grimjack** chapter concludes "Buried Past" and is by Ostrander and Truman. Truman did the cover. [1/24-1/31]

BEOWULF: The First Comics Graphic Novel. An adaptation of the epic by Jerry Bingham. $5.95. [late January]

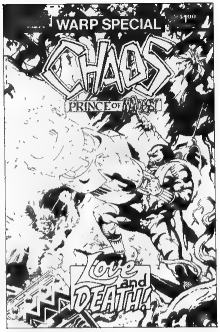
AMERICAN FLAGG! No. 9, June. "Big Iron" is by Howard Chaykin. The conclusion of "State of the Union" features the solution to Amy's murder. Chaykin did the cover. [2/7-2/14]

E-MAN No. 15, June. "Fat Man's Fury" is by Joe Staon and Rick Burchett. Samuel Boar, who endowed Nova with her powers, wants to corner the energy market, and he needs E-Man to do that.Staton did the cover. [2/14-2/21]

STARSLAYER No. 17, June. Starslayer story: "Broke" by John Ostrander and Tim Truman. Torin MacQuillon is thrown into jail as a vagrant in Cynosure. The **Grimjack** story is "Night of the Killer Bunnies" by Ostrander and Truman. Truman did the cover. [2/14-2/21]

JON SABLE, FREELANCE No. 13, June. "MIA—Conclusion" is by Mike Grell. Sable's mission is only to get out of Viet Nam with proof that Pratt is alive, which isn't as easy as it sounds. Grell did the cover. [2/21-2/28]

MARS No. 6, June. "Faith" is by Marc Hempel and Mark Wheatley. Morgana uncovers the mystery of her crew. Then, the Black Flame stars in "Oneiromachia" by Peter Gillis, Tom



Sutton and Bruce Patterson. the Black Flame must save Susie from the Boogeymen in the Nightmare Schoolhouse. Hempel and Wheatley did the cover. [2/21-2/28]

WARP SPECIAL No. 3, June. "Four Figures on a Darkened Stage" is by Peter Gillis and George Freeman. Chaos, Prince of Madness stars as the origins of Yggthion, the Demons of Dis, the elders of Fen-Ra and Castle Rottwang are revealed. Freeman did the cover. [2/21-2/28]

COLLECTING COMICS

By Michael Tiefenbacher

This episode, we wander into the realm of Western Publishing's post 1962 general-audience publications. Just to update matters for people who came in late, in 1938 or thereabouts, Dell Publishing contracted with Western Printing and Lithographing to prepare editorial material for their comic-book line, then almost solely comprised of reprints. I'm not absolutely certain when the first new material did appear, but from at least the early '40s through early 1961, all comics published by Dell were prepared by Western. Then—disaster struck. Dell went up to 15 cents.

The move was a calculated risk; the price was regionally experimented with in 1958, and apparently discarded then as unworkable. But by 1961, costs necessitated an increase, and Dell, then the sales leader, jumped the gun on everyone else. To put it mildly, sales plummeted. **WALT DISNEY'S COMICS AND STORIES,** which had been selling nearly two million copies in 1960, was down to half that by 1961 and 500,000 by '62. There was almost a unanimity

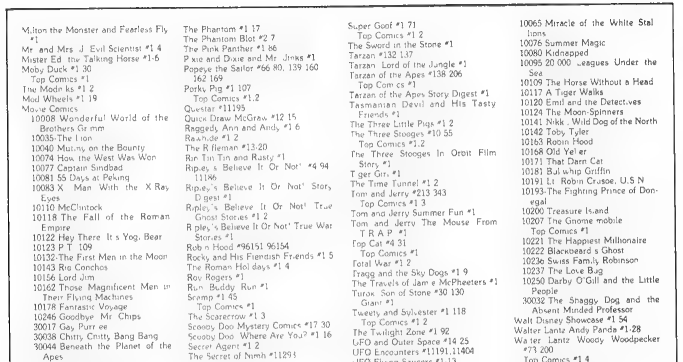
WHITMAN COMICS

Adam-12 #1-10
The Addams Family #1 3
Adventures of Mighty Mouse #145-160,166 172
Adventures of Robin Hood #1-7
Alice In Wonderland #503
The Aliens #1,2
The Amazing Chan and the Chan Clan #1 4
Annie Oakley and Tagg #1
The Aristocats #103
The Aristokittens #1-9
Astro Boy #1
Atom Ant #1
Augie Doggie #1
The Avengers #1
Baby Snoots #1,22
Baloo and Little Britches #1
Bambi #309,607
Bamm-Bamm and Pebbles Flintstone #1
The Banana Splits #1-8
Barney Google and Snuffy Smith #1
Battle of the Planets #1-10
The Beagle Boys #1-47
Top Comics #1
The Beagle Boys Versus Uncle Scrooge #1-12
Beep Beep, the Road Runner #1 103
Beetle Bailey #39-53, 120-132
Ben Casey Film Story #1
The Best of Bugs Bunny #1,2
The Best of Donald Duck #1
The Best of Donald Duck and Uncle Scrooge #1
The Best of Uncle Scrooge and Donald Duck #1
The Best of Walt Disney Comics #96170-96173
Big Red #211,503
The Black Hole #1-3,11295
Bonanza #1-37
Boris Karloff Tales of Mystery #3 97
Boris Karloff Tales of Mystery Story Digest Magazine #1
Boris Karloff Thriller #1,2
Brothers of the Spear #1 18
Buck Rogers #1-4
Buck Rogers in the 25th Century #5-9,11-16
Treasury #11296
Buffalo Bill Jr #1
Bugs Bunny #86-243
Top Comics #1,2
Bugs Bunny and Porky Pig #1
Bugs Bunny Comics-Go-Round #11196
Bugs Bunny Winter Fun #1
Bullwinkle #1 19
Bullwinkle and Rocky #20 25
Captain Nice #1
Captain Venture And the Land Beneath the Sea #1,2
Cave Kids #1-16
Checkmate #1,2
Chip 'N' Dale #1 81
Top Comics #1
Choo Choo Charlie #1
Christmas Parade #1 9, 11191
Cinderella #508,204
City Surgeon #1
Clash of the Titans #11290
The Close Shaves of Pauline Peril #1 4
The Colossal Show #1
Comics And Stories #264-506
Top Comics #1,2
Condorman #1 3
Cowboy In Africa #1
Daffy Duck #31 143
Top Comics #1,2
Dagar the Invincible #1-19
Daisy and Donald #1 47 49 58
Daniel Boone #1 15
Dark Shadows #1-35
Dark Shadows Story Digest Magazine #1
Davy Crockett #1 2
Dear Nancy Parker #1,2
Deputy Dawg #1
Deputy Dawg Presents Dinky Duck and Hashimoto San #1
Doc Savage #1
Doctor Solar, Man of the Atom #1-31
Donald Duck #85,242
Top Comics #1-3
Donald Duck Album #1 2
Donald Duck Beach Party #1
Duke of the K-9 Patrol #1
Dumbo #310
Dynabrite Comics #11300,11361 11350 1 11352 1 11354 1 11355 1
Family Affair #1-4
Fantastic Voyage #1 4
The Fantastic Voyages of Sindbad #1 2
Fat Albert #1 29
Flash Gordon #1, 19 30 (010)_30(107) 37 movie #1
The Flintstones #7 60
Top Comics #1 4
The Flintstones At the New York World's Fair 1964-1965 (with Warren under JW Books imprint)
The Flintstones Bigger and Boulder #1 2
The Flintstones With Pebbles and Bamm Bamm #1
Flipper #1 3
Top Comics #1
The Fox And the Hound #1-3 11292
Fractured Fairy Tales #1
Frankenstein Jr #1
Freedom Agent #1
Fun-In #1 15
The Funky Phantom #1-13
Fury #1
The Gallant Men #1
Gallagher Boy Reporter #1
G.I And His Battle Aces #1
George of the Jungle #1,2
The Girl From U.N.C.L.E #1-5
Golden Comics Digest #1 48
Gold Key Champion #1 2
Gold Key Spotlight #1-11
Gomer Pyle #1-3
The Governor and J.J #1-3
The Green Hornet #1 3
Grimm's Ghost Stories #1 60
Gunsmoke #1 6
Gunsmoke Film Story #1
The Hair Bear Bunch #1-9
Hanna-Barbera Bandwagon #1 3
Hanna-Barbera Super TV Heroes #1 7
Happy Days #1-6
The Hardy Boys #1-4
The Harlem Globetrotters #1 12
Hawaiian Eye #1
Heckle and Jeckle #1 4
Hector Heathcote #1
Hi Adventure Heroes #1,2
The High Chaparral #1
Honey West #1
H.R. Pufnstuf #1 8
Huckleberry Hound #18-43
Top Comics #1
Huey, Dewey and Louie Junior Woodchucks #1 78
Top Comics #1
The Inspector #1 19
The Invaders #1 4
I Spy #1 6
It's About Time #1
Jet Dream #1
The Jetsons #1 36
Top Comics #1
John Carter of Mars #1 3
John Steele, Secret Agent #1
Jonny Quest #1
Judge Colt #1
The Jungle Book #1 Treasury #6022 11299
The Jungle Twins #1 18
King Kong #809 Treasury #1, 11229
King Leonardo and His Short Subjects #1 4
King Louie and Mowgli #1
Korak, Son of Tarzan #1-45
Krazy Kat #1
Krofft Supershow #1-6
Lady and the Tramp #301 203
Lancelot Link, Secret Chimp #1-8
Lancer #1 3
Land of the Giants #1 5
Laredo #1
Lassie #59-70, 11193
Top Comics #1
Laurel and Hardy #1,2
The Legend of Jesse James #1
The Legend of Young Dick Turpin #1
Lucasville #1 5
Linus the Lion Hearted #1
Loopy the Lion and Hardy Har Har #1
Little Lulu #207 267
Little Monsters #1 44
Top Comics #1
The Little Stooges #1 7
The Lone Ranger #1 28
The Lone Ranger Golden West #1
Looney Tunes #1 45
The Lucy Show #1 5
Magilla Gorilla #1-10
Magnus, Robot Fighter #1 46
The Man From U.N.C.L.E #1 22
Marge's Little Lulu #165 206
Marge's Little Lulu Summer Camp #1
Marge's Little Lulu Trick 'n' Treat #1
Marge's Tubby and the Little Men From Mars #1
M.A.R.S. Patrol Total War #3-10
Mary Poppins #1 giant #1
Masters of the Universe #11362
Maya #1
Merlin Jones #405 510
Mickey Mouse #85 216
Top Comics #1 4
Mickey Mouse Album #1
Mickey Mouse Club #1
Mickey Mouse Surprise Party #1
The Microbots #1
The Mighty Hercules #1,2
Mighty Mouse #161 165
Mighty Samson #1 32

of non-compliance by other comics publishers, who went to 12 cents (Archie did publish some regionally-priced 15 centers, just as, over the past year, they've published 75 centers). Clearly, this had an effect on the management of either company, as by mid-1961, Dell began producing their own in-house comics, which appeared simultaneously with those being produced by Western for Dell. Generally, these were cheaper-looking and probably had lower budgets, so it's my speculation that either Dell decided to undercut Western's production costs themselves, or Western felt their royalties were hurt by the business move to 15 cents and notified Dell of their intentions to pull out and begin publishing their own product. In either case, in July of 1962, the first issues of the new Gold Key line appeared, cover dated September. Since that time, Gold Key has become Whitman, and during that period, another subsidiary called Golden Books has published various oversize paper and hard cover comic books. All are included in this listing as it's all the same company; Golden's output are numbered by their ISBN numbers of five digits, or Whitman's in-house numbers (four, usually). As with the Dell Comics listings, I have noted significant title changes, but have ignored single-issue variations of suffixes, the suffixes used on the giants of the 1962-63 period which began several series, and have taken the capitalization used on the majority of issues as the correct title for all (in other words, though **Walt Disney SCAMP** became **WALT DISNEY SCAMP** with #14, they are all to be found under **SCAMP**.)

A long letter from Joseph J.G Grissell of 483 Columbus Avenue, New York, NY 10024, offers many additions/corrections to my corrections in the last issue. Joseph, in all cases where the information listed on pages 24-25 of that issue disagrees with the **PRICE GUIDE**, believe that ours is the correct version. This means that **MY GIRL PEARL #1-6**, **OFFICIAL TRUE CRIME CASES #24,25**, **MARVEL SUPER-HEROES #12-105**, **ROMANCE TALES #7-9** and **SIX-GUN WESTERN #1-4** are right. **LITTLE LIZZIE** has two separate runs: **#1-5** in 1949-50, and **#1-3** in '53-54. **CHILI**, the giant-size **KA-ZAR** and the first two giant issues of **MARVEL TALES** are listed only under those names in their respective indicias. **EVEL KNIEVAL** has no indicias, but since the prefix differs between the title used on the cover and the title page, I've opted for the usage of the words common to both. (And by the way, the **GUIDE**'s notation that this was drawn by Mike Sekowsky can only be chalked up to another "expert's" erroneous guess; the art is by Win Mortimer and Frank Giacoia).

I did, however, allow one omission to slip through for the third time, and it is **PATTY POWERS #4-7**.



Milton the Monster and Fearless Fly #1
Mr and Mrs J Evil Scientist #1 4
Mister Ed the Talking Horse #1-6
Moby Duck #1 30
Top Comics #1
The Mod le ks #1 2
Mod Wheels #1 19
Movie Comics
10008 Wonderful World of the Brothers Gr mm
10035 The Lion
10040 Mut ns, on the Bounty
10074 How the West Was Won
10077 Captain Sindbad
10081 55 Days at Peking
10083 X Man With the X Ray Eyes
10110 McClintock
10118 The Fall of the Roman Empire
10122 Hey There It s Yog, Bear
10123 P T 109
10132 The First Men in the Moon
10143 Rio Conchos
10156 Lord Jim
10162 Those Magnificent Men in Their Flying Machines
10178 Fantastic Voyage
10246 Goodbye Mr Chips
30017 Gay Purr ee
30038 Chitty, Chitty, Bang Bang
30044 Beneath the Planet of the Apes
35000 Yellow Submarine
The Munsters #1 16
Mush Mouse and Punkin Puss #1
My Favorite Martian #1 9
Mystery Comics Digest #1 26
Nancy and Sluggo #188 192
National Velvet #1 2
The New Adventures of Huck Finn #1
New Adventures of the Phantom Blot #1
The New Mickey Mouse Club Fun Book #11190
New Terrytoons #1 54
The Nurses #1 3
The Occult Files of Dr Spektor #1 25
O G Whiz #1 11
O'Malley and the Al ey Cats #1 9
101 Dalmatians #002
The Owl #1 2
Peanuts #1 4
Pebbles Funnstone #1
Peter Pan #309 909
Peter Potamus #1
The Phantom #1 17
The Phantom Blot #2 7
The Pink Panther #1 86
Pixie and Dixie and Mr Jinks #1
Popeye the Sailor #66 80, 139 160
162 169
Porky Pig #1 107
Top Comics #1 2
Questar #11195
Quick Draw McGraw #12 15
Raggedy Ann and Andy #1 6
Rawhide #1 2
The R fleman #13 20
Rin Tin Tin and Rusty #1
Ripley s Believe It Or Not! #4 94
11196
Ripley's Believe It Or Not! Story Digest #1
Ripley's Believe It Or Not! True Ghost Stories #1 2
Ripley's Believe It Or Not! True War Stories #1
Robin Hood #96151 96154
Rocky and His Friendish Friends #1 5
The Roman Holidays #1 4
Roy Rogers #1
Run Buddy Run #1
Scamp #1 45
Top Comics #1
The Scarecrow #1 3
Scooby Doo Mystery Comics #17 30
Scooby Doo Where Are You? #1 16
Secret Agent #1 2
The Secret of Numb #11293
Secret Squirrel #1
77 Sunset Strip #1 2
Shadow Plays #1
The Shirt Tales #1 3
Smoud of Mystery #1
Sleeping Beauty #069
Smokey Bear #1 13
Snagglepuss #1 4
Snooper and Blabber, Detectives #1 3
Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs #310 209 204
Top Comics #2
Space Family Robinson #1 15
Space Family Robinson Lost In Space #1 59
Space Ghost #1
Spine Tingling Tales #1 4
Starstream #1 4
Star Trek #1 61
Star Trek The Enterprise Logs #1 4
Steve Zodiac and the Fireball XL5 #1
Stories of the West #1
Supercar #1 4
Super Goof #1 71
Top Comics #1 2
The Sword in the Stone #1
Tarzan #132 137
Tarzan Lord of the Jungle #1
Tarzan of the Apes #138 206
Top Com cs #1
Tarzan of the Apes Story Digest #1
Tasmanian Devil and His Tasty Friends #1
The Three Little Pigs #1 2
The Three Stooges #10 55
Top Comics #1 2
The Three Stooges In Orbit Film Story #1
Tiger Girl #1
The Time Tunnel #1 2
Tom and Jerry #213 343
Top Comics #1 3
Tom and Jerry Summer Fun #1
Tom and Jerry The Mouse From T R A P #1
Top Cat #4 31
Top Comics #1
Total War #1 2
Tragg and the Sky Dogs #1 9
The Travels of Jam e McPheeters #1
Turok Son of Stone #30 130
Giant #1
Tweety and Sylvester #1 118
Top Comics #1 2
The Twilight Zone #1 92
UFO and Outer Space #14 25
UFO Encounters #11191,11404
UFO Flying Saucers #1-13
UFO Mysteries #11400
Uncle Scrooge #40 205
Top Comics #1 3
Unc e Scrooge and Money #1
Uncle Scrooge and Donald Duck #1
Underdog #1 23
Vacation in Disneyland #1
The Virginian #1
Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea #1 16
Wacky Adventures of Cracky #1 12
Wacky Races #1 7
Wacky Witch #1 21
Waggon Train #1 4
Wally #1 4
Walt Disney Comics Digest #1 57
Walt Disney Movie Comics
10043 Escapade in Florence
10048 In Search of the Castaways
10057 Son of Flubber
10069 The Legend of Lobo
10065 Miracle of the White Stallions
10076 Summer Magic
10080 Kidnapped
10095 20 000 Leagues Under the Sea
10109 The Horse Without a Head
10117 A Tiger Walks
10120 Emil and the Detect ves
10124 The Moon Spinners
10141 Nikki Wild Dog of the North
10142 Toby Tyler
10163 Robin Hood
10168 Gold Yr ar
10171 That Darn Cat
10181 Bul whip Griffin
10191 Lt Robin Crusoe U S N
10193 The Fighting Prince of Donegal
10200 Treasure Is and
10207 The Gnome mobile
Top Comics #1
10221 The Happiest Millionaire
10222 Blackbeard s Ghost
10236 Swiss Family Robinson
10237 The Love Bug
10250 Darby O Gill and the Little People
30032 The Shaggy Dog and the Absent Minded Professor
Walt Disney Showcase #1 56
Walter Lantz Andy Panda #1-28
Walter Lantz Woody Woodpecker #73 200
Top Comics #1 4
Walter Lantz Woody Woodpecker Christmas Parade #1
Walter Lantz Space Mouse #1 5
Wart and the Wizard #1
Where s Huddles #1 3
A Whitman Comic Book #1-8
The Wild Wild West #1 7
Winnie the Pooh #1 31
Wonderful Adventures of Pinocchio #310 109 204
Woodsy Owl #1 10
Woody Woodpecker Summer Fun #1
World of Adventure #1 3
Yakky Doodle #1
Yogi Bear #10 42
Top Comics #1 2
Yosemite Sam #1 80
Zoey the Mod Rob #1
Zorro #1 9
Top Comics #1 2

While **FOOM** was a Marvel publication, **MARVELMANIA** was not.

All other titles you've mentioned, Joseph, are either outside the periphery of this list (British Marvels, for instance), published by Whitman (**GIANT COMICS TO COLOR**), Power Records, or rebound issues (Bluebird). Others have no connection at all (**2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY**). And still others are simply not comics, such as **MONSTERS OF THE MOVIES**. If I were to include all of the magazines published by Martin Goodman, you'd have pulps, crossword-puzzle books, men's magazines and other stuff which has no connection to this column.

As I think I've explained before, correct titles are found in the indicia, therefore cover changes such as **CAPTAIN AMERICA AND THE FALCON, DAREDEVIL AND THE BLACK WIDOW** and **GREEN LANTERN AND GREEN ARROW** do not count. Also, in order to keep things to a relative level of sanity, titles which change every month (i.e. **MARVEL TEAM-UP, MARVEL SUPER SPECIAL, MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE, THE FUNTASTIC WORLD OF HANNA-BARBERA** or even **SAVAGE TALES** are distilled down to the words which are common to every issue (with the exception of "Featuring"). Otherwise, there'd be over 100 different titles for **MARVEL TEAM-UP** alone.

To answer two other questions: IW/Super's reprints of Marvel material were unauthorized and probably illegal. They are not considered part of this list. And as for your wonderings about the connection between Marvel and ME due to the Ghost Rider, the answer is again that there are none. Marvel simply co-opted the name and appearance of the old character; they did not license it. The ME Ghost Rider is not the same person. (Around this time Marvel also came out with their version of Captain Marvel, who has as much in common with the Fawcett version)

Also, Joseph, I don't care what anyone says: there never was a Timely Comics. Anything prior and following comics with the Atlas globe on the cover are properly called Marvel Comics; Timely was simply one of the multitude of subsidiary names Martin Goodman published his wares under. Like any other hobby, terminology of an incorrect nature has imbedded itself in our thinking, and, though I doubt it will ever be eliminated, I would like to point it out. (Most comics published by Goodman in the '40s neither carried a comics group name on the cover nor referred to one in the advertising, but the few that did said Marvel, or even Atlas.)

Lastly, Joseph wonders if anyone knows the name of the guy who was the Human Fly in real life. I sure don't, since I never cared.

Next up: Charlton Comics.

-Mike Tiefenbacher

BULLET CROW — FOWL OF FORTUNE — by CHUCK FIALA

O.K., LET'S MOVE IT! I AIN'T GOT ALL DAY! IT'S STRAIGHT TO THE CELL BLOCK FOR YOU, ELF IMPOSTER!!!
BUT REALLY! I AM AN ELF HEH-HEH
©1983 CHUCK FIALA
OH YEAH? I AIN'T SEEN YOU AT ANY ELF UNION MEETINGS!
UNION MEETINGS?
ALL ELVES GO TO THOSE MEETINGS! SAY, MAYBE YOU'RE NOT AN IMPOSTER, BUT ONE OF THOSE LOUSY SCUM ELVES THAT DON'T COUGH UP UNION DUES!
THAT'S WHY I CAUGHT YOU SNEAKING ABOUT, YOU WERE HIDING OUT OF SHAME AND GUILT!
GEEZ! SANTA'S ELVES ARE UNIONIZED AND CARRY GUNS. ..AND THEY ALWAYS LOOKED SO HAPPY ON THOSE T.V. SPECIALS!
HMMM, PERHAPS I CAN PLAY DUMB, DUPE THIS LITTLE JERK, GAIN ENTRANCE TO SANTA'S LAIR AND DISCOVER WHY HIS WORKSHOP CAUSES SO MUCH ACID SNOW!
OH, SILLY ME! DID I FORGET TO JOIN THE UNION AGAIN!? SOME DAYS I'M SUCH A SPACE!
THAT'S POSSIBLE. SOME ELVES AIN'T TOO BRIGHT
OH, WOULD YOU ACCOMPANY ME TO THE UNION OFFICE? I GET LOST SO EASILY!
WHY SURE!
Y'KNOW YOU'RE PRETTY CUTE FOR AN ELF!

EPISODE 71: by Dan Ross

Captain Kentucky GOES TO IRAN

WE RETURN TO MID MAY, 1980!

WHEN WE LAST LEFT OFF, C.K. WAS IN TEHRAN, THE NITWIT CAPITAL OF THE WORLD, ADDRESSING WHAT PASSES FOR A "POPULACE"...

...AND FURTHERMORE, ANOTHER AMERICAN PATRIOT, GARY BURBANK HAS SENT ALONG WITH ME HIS ENTIRE STOCK OF OLD SNOW SHARKS WHICH I HAVE RELEASED THROUGHOUT YOUR DESERTS AS... SAND SHARKS!

BUT NOW TO MORE IMPORTANT MATTERS... NAMELY, THE DEPOSING OF AYATOLLAH KHOMEINI!???

NO! NO! THE AYATOLLAH IS OUR LEADER FOR LIFE!

THE IMAM IS INFALLIBLE? HE CAN DO NO WRONG? WE WOULD DIE FOR HIM?

LIFE TO KHOMEINI! LIFE TO KHOMEINI!

DEATH TO JIMMY CARTER

DEATH TO THE AMERICAN SATAN

DEATH TO J. R.

BE THAT AS IT MAY, I HAVE HERE SOME PHOTOS TAKEN DURING THE BIG K'S EXILE IN FRANCE. HERE'S A NICE SHOT TAKEN AT A LITTLE MOTEL JUST OUTSIDE MARSEILLES SHOWING YOUR AYATOLLAH ENGAGING IN EXOTIC ACTIVITIES WITH BRIGITTE BARDOT?

THE AYATOLLAH IS THE ONE WITH THE BEARD AND LEATHER STRAPS.

AAIEEE! THE IMAM AND AN INFIDEL!!! IT IS INCOMPREHENSIBLE!

YES--TO THINK HE COULD HAVE HAD CATHERINE DENEUVE!

SHUT UP!

NO! NO! THE IMAM IS FAITHFUL TO ISLAM AND IRAN!

THE CIA IS AT IT AGAIN! PLOT!

HI MOM

C.K.'S PRE-DECODED SECRET MESSAGE: WHAT IS FUZZY, BUBBLES, AND SCRATCHES ON THE GLASS??? the AYATOLLAH KHOMEINI IN A MICRO-WAVE OVEN.

HE IS, IN FACT, NEITHER ISLAMIC NOR IRANIAN! HE SAYS HE WAS IN EXILE IN FRANCE. BUT THIS RARE PHOTO OF KHOMEINI WITHOUT HIS TURBAN SHOWS CONCLUSIVELY THAT HE IS, IN REALITY...

A CONEHEAD FROM REMULAC!

AAIIEEE! DEATH TO KHOMEINI! DEATH TO KHOMEINI!!

HAVING HIS PLEASURE WITH AN INFIDEL WENCH? GIVE HIM TO US?

YES? WHEN WE CATCH A THIEF WE CUT OFF HIS HAND. SO YOU CAN GUESS WHAT WE GONNA DO TO KHOMEINI!

HE IS THE GREAT SATAN AND A BIG SILLY?

GIVE HIM TO US?

GIVE HIM TO US?

DEATH TO KHOMEINI!

IRAN IS A PLOT!

FIRST, IT IS MY RESPONSIBILITY TO GIVE YOU A NEW LEADER! I'VE FOUND SOMEONE WHO MIGHT FIT WELL INTO YOUR GOVERNMENT OF NO ETHICS AND FEWER MORALS! I GIVE YOU... YOUR NEW AYATOLLAH!

NOW REMEMBER--NOW THAT I'VE MOVED TO PERSIA, YOU PROMISED I COULD GET ME A HAREM?

YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN, MAVOR--RIGHT NOW AMERICA HAS A LITTLE SCORE TO SETTLE, IN PERSON, WITH...

KHOMEINI!

NEXT WEEK: C.K. FINALLY MEETS THE HEAD SCREWBALL!

EPISODE 72: by Don Rosa

Captain Kentucky GOES TO IRAN

GIVE HIM TO US!

GIVE HIM TO US!

THIS PRICELESS ANCIENT VASE!

DEATH TO AMERICA!!

DEATH TO AMERICA!!

DEATH TO AMERICA!!

PART IV:

IN THE IMAGINARY REALITY OF CAPTAIN KENTUCKY WE'VE TURNED TIME BACK TO MID-MAY, 1980; C.K. HAS INCITED AN ANTI KHOMEINI RIOT IN TEHRAN, AND HAS INSTALLED AS THE NEW AYATOLLAH ONE BILL STANSBURY (INASMUCH AS IDI AMIN WAS UNDER QUALIFIED).

C.K.'S PREDECODED SECRET MESSAGE: UH OH! LOOKOUT FOR THE

AND NOW-- THE MOMENT AMERICA HAS AWAITED SINCE NOVEMBER, 1979!

GULP

THIS, BIG K., IS FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA...FOR MOM, APPLE PIE, THE GIRL NEXT DOOR.....

SCRIBBLE

KISS! KISS! KISS! KISS

...TRUTH, JUSTICE, AND the AMERICAN WAY!:

DAMN

GOD BLESS AMERICA

!

NEXT WEEK AT LAST--THE RESCUE OF THE HOSTAGES!

THIS COMIC STRIP TO BE READ TO THE TUNE OF "COLUMBIA THE GEM OF THE OCEAN". THANK YOU

TCR MAILBOAT

PETER MANEKAR, 3242 Decatur Avenue, Bronx, NY 10467: In **TWISTED TALES #8**, a letter was published from a person who thought a previous story, "Banjo Lessons," did not match his standards at all. Therefore, the aforementioned man, who manages a Geppi's Store, will not sell this mag!

Now, even if it's only **this** edition he won't sell, and not future installments, I couldn't help but wonder whether this will start a trend towards merchants vs companies. It's not, naturally, annoying enough that there are pressure groups already yelling for restrictions! Now those who sell these magazines are adding fuel to the fire! Certainly, this may be one isolated incident, but I feel somewhat taken aback that dealers in comics are taking such action with no real reason Sure, you should do what you feel is right, but not when you may end up hurting your customers! Censor this and what will you next decide isn't right for the average fan? Why not try polling people? Maybe [Mr. Store Owner] you did this basically for yourself, and really were not all that much concerned with others and their thoughts? Aren't you aware that more such actions could, though it's speculation, result in another crackdown, which could endanger our hobby? I say the buying public should ultimately make their thoughts know, pro or con, rather than have anybody outside comics dictate what is "proper"!

Just 'cause some men and women can't fathom the writer's intent, they shouldn't condemn and then start moralizing!

[Oh, I see. The dealer should simply sell everything, regardless of his personal feeling, then weather the storm AFTER the thing is bought and read by his customers?

Certainly, rational-thinking customers do not blame their comics shop for the garbage created by comic publishers, writers or artists. However, there are plenty of irrational thinkers out there who do just that, assuming the morality expressed in the wares of the seller are endorsed by that seller. It's not fair, but that segment of the buying public exists, and who can blame the dealer for fearing for his economic health because of that?

But that's not really what we're talking about now, is it? We're speaking of the individual seller saying "this magazine represents a viewpoint or a treatment of life I loathe, and I won't be responsible for selling it to my customers." To which I say, "Congratulations, sir, you're a man of principle." I don't buy any of your arguments, especially where further crackdowns are concerned. If anything, it won't be dealers NOT carrying things they find offensive that prompts such an action, but dealers who DO sell something indiscriminately to a customer in some way connected to someone with the power to bring the whole thing to public attention again. We are presently witnessing a market in which comics which do not look like comics do not sell, while various creators want to make their subject matter more adult than standard comics have been in the past, and this confusion to the average buyer, if anything, will be the thing that brings it all to a halt.

I have no idea if I would be able to sell the issue in question, which contained a very poorly told story if its intentions were to promote racial understanding. My impression was that it was simply a set-up for a standard horror story shock-ending, typically crude, in this case a nude black man on a plate stuffed to be eaten. I'd like to think the audience is intelligent to know the difference, but I'm afraid there are immature people out there who would be titillated rather than disgusted, despite their chronological age. MT]

BRIAN DOHERTY, 11598 West Ride Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32217: The appearance of a new issue of **TCR** has become a rare occurance well worth celebrating. I enjoy the celebrations, of course, but I would be thrilled to death if you could once again get on a monthly schedule. Thankfully, though, this issue arrived only one mailing day after seeing it at a local comic shop, and **before** another, more local, comic shop received it. Wonder of wonders.

To begin with: The retitling of Will Eisner's **LIFE ON ANOTHER PLANET** to **SIGNAL FROM SPACE** is a mistake, in my opinion. The former has much more of a ring to it. I guess Kitchen feared the audience might think it was a factual treatise with that title. I'd also like to go on record as saying that it is a mistake to turn **THE SPIRIT** into a color comic because of the dictates of the market. Now, if I still continue to get the magazines, I'll have to spend nearly twice as much to get nearly the same amount of material, and the post-war **Spirit** stories will be in inferior (to me) color!! (The original black and white **SPIRIT Magazine** usually printed four post-war stories along with interviews, pre-war stories, and new Eisner art.)

I suppose the **Comics History** will thrill those who complain about too many letters in **TCR**, like Brent Higinbotham in this issue. I, who get an enormous kick out of reading letters, am less than thrilled. I found both this and the **Buck Rogers** article a few issues back to be dry and boring. By the way, in the interest of historical accuracy, Betty Dean died in the **second** issue of **SUPER-VILLAIN TEAM-UP**. I remember this issue well because it's the first comic book I bought, and the scene of Subby looking up in anger from her corpse...whew, that had quite an effect on my young mind, lemme tell you! Even to make me buy more comics, and well, here I am, the bashful star you see before you today.

The **Mailboat** was too short for this letter lover. Some random comments on what there was of it: To Peter Sturman: Yes, I find it rather strange that you find yourself saying "Come off it Ray!" to yourself. Your name is Peter. Regarding John Strangeland's letter: I think you handled your answer pretty well, Mike, for yourself. For a more general response, one might point out that it is not the nature of a hero to hit people. It is not even the nature of a comic-book super-hero. The few real-life heroes I have do not hit people, and as for comic-book heroes, I don't have any. (Except maybe Captain Kentucky.)

Brent Higinbotham missed the entire point of the violence debate. It was not an opinion poll, it was an exchange of ideas, the thing I love letter pages, when they're done well, for.

As a Gene Colan fan from way back, I am **thrilled** to announce that the master is back in top form with **NATHANIEL DUSK**. And, as a comic fan, I am also thrilled that there is now more than one comic book currently being published that I like enough to regularly buy! Of course, it'll only last for four issues. Darn...

On to less pleasant things. Spider-Man's new costume is ugly and unbefitting his character. Nuff said.

Regarding Gene Reed's **Yellow Claw** article, he neglected to mention that **Claw** stories also appear in **GIANT-SIZE MASTER OF KUNG FU #2** and **3** as well. These are good comics worth checking out not only for the **Claw** reprints, but also for the entertaining lead stories by Moench and Gulacy.

As for **#215's Mailboat**: Frank Hayes' (not **Mr. Hayes**) comments on LOC writing were well thought out, and I hear the same thing from my English teacher, and I realize no one

would benefit from his suggestions more than I, but I must say...I just don't have the time or the inclination to do all those things!!! For better or worse, my letters will just have to continue to be whatever reels trippingly off the fingers as I sit at my typewriter. I have always worked this way, and have managed to get twenty-plus letters printed, about 75% of all that I've written, in places as diverse as **AMAZING STORIES, ALL-STAR SQUADRON, CEREBUS,** and good ol' **TCR**. And even if I don't get printed, I don't feel I've wasted my time. It's the communication that counts.

Oops...you didn't want to talk about that anymore, did you? Okay, on to other things...like Stephen Scott Beau etc.'s letter. His "awards" prompted a **lot** of disagreement from me! First, Alan Zelenetz as an "underrated" writer? It would be pretty difficult to underrate his talent. I will never forgive him for ruining the ending of my favorite comic, **MASTER OF KUNG FU**. His last story showed a total lack of understanding of the character. Shang-Chi would **not** be consumed with guilt feelings at his killing of Dr. Fu Manchu (though I feel Moench made a mistake in having Shang kill him in the first place; it is not appropriate for one to regain the art of life in the murder of another; in fact, Moench's last Fu epic was a mess altogether, but that's another story), nor would Shang's mother act that way at Fu's death. Sure, she wanted a son who could be a king, but she realized that all hope of reconciliation between Shang and Fu was gone in the very first comic Shang appeared in! (**SPECIAL MARVEL EDITION #15**). And Shang would **not** abandon Leiko in this way, nor would he settle for a life in that Chinese village. Even Zelenetz realized this; he has Shang thinking "Again I have learned that complacency is a luxury I could not afford," only to have him settle for a life of complacency a couple of pages later! Shang made his decision on a life of action way back in **MOKF #29** when he chose to attack Velcro's island, and he renewed that decision time and time again. To have him change all that in one thought balloon (on the second panel of the first page by Kupperberg—whose art, by the way, was laughably bad in this issue) is, well, not good writing. **MOKF #125** upset me perhaps more than any other comic I have read, and it was all Zelenetz's fault. I would really like to know what Doug Moench thought of that story.

Enough of that. I also disagree with his contention that Mando and Baxter were a mistake by the industry. They make the comics they are printed on look a lot better.

I remember a letter appearing by one "Theodore Maddox Maplehurst" appearing in **TCJ** a while back. Could this be the true face of The Mad Maple???

Why did Randy Paske feel it necessary to point out that he had not seen the two music videos he had mentioned on MTV? As a viewer of MTV, I can state that it has not harmed me either physically or mentally (though it has, occasionally, violated my sensibilities) and that there is nothing morally wrong with watching MTV. So there.

A couple of questions. Could you, Mike, tell me when the original airing dates of series such as **ROCKY AND HIS FRIENDS, TENNESSEE TUXEDO** and **DUDLEY DO-RIGHT** were? (The Jay Ward shows, that is.) Also, while looking through some back issues of **TCR** (they make great reading over cold cereal), I noticed you saying you needed a copy of the Aim **Spider-Man** giveaway. If you still need one, I've got one I'd be willing to give to you

[Again, this was two separate letters edited together, before anyone asks.

I find nothing wrong with MTV except that it's incredibly, stultifyingly boring. I listen to the radio all the time and buy hundreds of records a year, but I can't watch MTV. Too much repitition, both of songs and technique, and very little sense of currency—largely the same reasons I stopped listening to album-oriented radio.

To answer your second question first, I have since gotten the Aim SPIDER-MAN comic, thank you anyway. There are lots of generous people out there, including the pal who gave me that particular issue, and I thank all of you.

TENNESSEE TUXEDO was not a Jay Ward show, though the animation was done by the same company [Total TV or Gamma, take your pick]; you might be thinking of HOPPITY HOOPER, which was a Ward show. ROCKY debuted in 1959 as an ABC afternoon show, became BULLWINKLE in NBC's prime-time line-up in 1961, and had four or five seasons, a number I find largely impossible to figure out at this date unless Jay Ward could tell you. TENNESSEE began in 1963 as a CBS morning show; HOPPITY HOOPER was syndicated in 1963. DUDLEY DO-RIGHT was repackaged from BULLWINKLE episodes by ABC and it began in 1969. MT]

ED KRIEG, Presidential Arms D-1, Lansdale, PA 19446: Issue **215** was good. Good to see you print the letter from "Mike" so we can see why letters shouldn't be printed. His remarks about Miller were unfair. **RONIN**, I'm sorry to say, has a bad plot. Irwin Allen, mentioned by Mike in his letter, is as popular in science fiction (both fans and pros) as is Robert Overstreet in comics.

About John Sikela. I remember him well. Wasn't he the guy who illustrated the very offensive (to me) story of "Super-Sister" in which Superboy gets turned into a girl? It's only a hoax, however.

In regards to the Newmans and **SUPERMAN III**)and **IV**), these "writers," and I use the term advisedly, will **not** be back, along with Chris Reeve.

As for **SUPERGIRL**, I am waiting with fear. Fear that they're gonna screw up the story. However, by the synopsis provided by a writer in **TCR #215**, it appears that this storyline **might** work. No tiresome Survival Zone, Supergirl's encounter with her cousin, etc. I suspect, though, with Marc McClure in the cast, one will have interplay between Kara and Jimmy Olsen.

Sorry about **BAY CITY BLUES** getting axed.

[As was I. Strange, isn't it, that both previous MTM drama-soaps [HILL STREET and ST. ELSEWHERE] were given far more time than four episodes to see whether any growth in ratings could be seen. Obviously, someone at NBC was either eager to pull the plug because the show was expensive, or because they just didn't like the characters. I have the feeling that this show may never have reached a large audience—but now I'm stuck with a videotape with only four episodes on it.

Yes, John Sikela did the story in question. I recall being very bothered by that story, as I read it just as my hormones were shifting into high and the whole thing seemed to have erotic overtones far beyond those of transvestite stories in that Superboy, for all intents and purposes, was a male trapped in a female body. Quite disturbing! MT]

DALE COE, 41, Whitecross Road, Warrington, Cheshire, WA5 1LR, ENGLAND: I fully expected you to have strong words to say about the recent **JLA** three-parter featuring the Ani-Men, but you left it to Sam Kujava to denounce it. Quite right, too. I was disgusted with the "splatter-comic" presentation of what was a rather weak plot, anyway. Conway went down quite a few "notches" on my scale of integrity

with this pornography (well put, Sam!). What a shameful waste of Chuck Patton and Romeo Tanghal's otherwise attractive artwork. I hope DC will ensure that there is no repition of this degrading perversion of a grand old comic. I wonder what Gardner Fox would say?

Staying with **A Comic Reader** for a minute, Sam painted a pretty gloomy picture of DC's current situation. I, for one, **do** give a damn about the well-being of all the publishers, but especially DC who have the best characters and a proud history. I have to budget very carefully when buying comics, being unemployed with a growing family, so there are many comics which look extremely interesting which I just cannot afford. I would hate for any of the new independents to "sink" but the idea of DC struggling really scares me. Sam makes Marvel out to be a conscienceless conglomerate out to destroy any and all competition. Somehow, I can believe it. But if the situation were reversed, would DC be any different? I'd like to think so, but I'm not that naive. What can anyone do? I buy over twenty DCs and a mere three Marvels now, so I guess Ms Kahn can't grumble if the aforementioned **JLA** story is what sells, though, I think I'd rather DC pack up than print that stuff month in and month out.

Your consternation over the pronunciation of Supergirl's Kryptonian name was amusing, Mike, mainly because I have been right all this time. I always pronounced it "Car-a." But Rann pronounced "Ron"? Strange. (No pun intended.) I was equally put out, years ago, when I discovered that Ka-Zar was pronounced "Kay-Sar" and not Ka-Zar, as it looks. Oh well, at least I now know how to pronounce Tiefenbacher.

The **Mailboat** was somewhat brief this time. Your fault or a lack of letters? I agree with Paul Baize concerning the **WORLD'S FINEST** and **DETECTIVE** logos, and would like to add to the list of eye-sores currently given cover-space. The new **AVENGERS** logo is **awful**. I say bring back the original. **JON SABLE, FREELANCE** is burdened with a truly hideous job of lettering, as is **NEW TALENT SHOWCASE**.

Regarding the news in **TCR #215** am I right in thinking that **BLACKHAWK** and **JONAH HEX** are the only comics DC publishes that are not monthly? I wonder if any more DC titles will join them on a bi-monthly schedule. If DC is, indeed, feeling the pinch, I wouldn't be at all surprised.

You stated that Neal Adams is redrawing the covers for **GREEN LANTERN/GREEN ARROW**. Surely the cover of **#5** was a reprint? I don't have the original to check, but I remember it well. If it is a redrawing, then Adams must have used tracing paper! Or is my memory deceiving me?

Was there a particular reason for printing two of my letters in **Mailboat** joined together? I'm not complaining, you understand, but it struck me as unusual when I saw page 53. My first reaction was along the lines of "Funny! I don't remember writing **that** long a letter!" Another odd thing about it was that, following T.M. Maple's letter on page 46, you said you'd had enough letters on letter-writing in the column, but up pops mine on page 53—on that very subject. Ah well, like I said, I'm not complaining.

So you too read your favorite comic last! I thought I was the only one. In my case, it is **FLASH** which occupies the bottom of the stack that week.

Your suggestion concerning bubble-gum cards of super-heroes is excellent, Mike. I fondly recall my schooldays, going to the nearby "sweet shop" and buying as many packs of cards as I could afford. (Sometimes dipping into my lunch money. Don't tell my Mum!) Swapping with friends in the playground ("Got that one, got that one, not got that one!"). Those were the days. I saw a dealer at a mart a while back offering a set of the **Batman** cards (probably the same one you mentioned, with the nice art) for over twenty pounds! And they weren't in awfully good condition. Needless to say, I walked past his table, not without a twinge of regret.

Back to the subject of logos, is there anyone else who prefers the original (Silver Age) **GREEN LANTERN** logo to the present one? I've never cared much for this one, no matter how many minor alterations are made to it. I'm pleased that DC is experimenting with their covers, even to the point of omitting a recognizable logo altogether. The recent issue of **BATMAN** (with the Joker) was a splendid example of what I mean. It does backfire sometimes, though, as with the **LEGION** cover on which the logo **became** the major part of the cover. (And they issued it as a poster, too! Yecchh!)

As a closing remark, I will pester you again about reinstating the Top 100 It would be nice. Apart from that, **TCR** is groovy (as they used to say).

[One reason I left the JLA three-parter alone for the most part was simply that it wasn't much of a change compared to the last five years of the book. Sure, it was disgusting in a graphic sense, but I've long lost hope that the book will enthrall me as it once did. And now that it's turned out that Conway's replacement will be—wait for it—Conway, I'm even less inclined to bother saying anything at all. I will mention something which a lot of people seemed to be unaware of: these three issues were apparently written before the Black Canary plot which appeared prior to them, which is why the lack of continuity existed. I think it might have been better if it had remained in the drawer.

With Marvel's domination of the total comic-book market sales-wise, who can blame them for taking advantage of it? Comics are a business, and the point is to take advantage of the market's existence, which is what Marvel's doing. I can see nothing wrong with it morally or legally, though I would say Marvel's certainly suffered esthetically. But I can't really feel sorry for all the independents, as Marvel's business practices have remained the same for forty years, and, as Super-Chicken used to say, they "knew the job was dangerous when [they] took it."

Did Paul Kupperberg say "Car-a"? I still don't know. ["Kerr-" as in Kerry, perhaps?]

I joined together your separate letters last time and this time simply because you're more prolific than we are, and I don't like falling behind.

First has recently hired a new designer, so some of First's logos, especially the unreadable JON SABLE, might be in line for change. DC apparently likes the lantern-in-the-middle GL logo, as they've used versions of it since the '40s. My preference is for the logo used on #33-73, without the flaming box around the lettering, but with the flaming letters. "Green Lantern" is not a dynamic-sounding title on its face, and the flames added a certain something to it. It comes in a close second among sixties DC logos to my favorite, the elegant HAWKMAN logo, a truly superior piece of calligraphy.

Yes, the Adams covers are redrawn, and yes, it looks as if they were traced. Don't know why they were done that way, but they were. By the by, I think Don Thompson identified the photos on the back as being pictures of Carmine Infantino; I seem to recall that they are not. The name Ed Lolacher springs to mind, but I think it may've been someone else in the corporate hierarchy. Can anyone tell me?

If plans go through, this issue should have a survey form incorporated into our checklist page, which

Watch for the FIRST ISSUE OF...

normalman™

tha COMIC !! IN FULL COLOR!

MAN, ANIMAL, VEGETABLE AND MINERAL ALIKE CRINGE AT THE VERY THOUGHT OF...

the EXCRUCIATINGLY AVERAGE normal-man™

YOU WILL GAPE AT THE UTTER ABSURDITY OF...

normalman's PAL CAPTAIN EVERYTHING™

FEATURING THE ROLL CALL OF...

THE LEGION OF SUPERFLUOUS HEROES™

Plus SGT. FLUFFY™ OF COURSE!

YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO ~~Miss~~ MISS THIS ISSUE!

CEREBUS AV AARDVARK-VANHELSING
JAN. NO. 1
normalman
featuring No Scene Even REMOTELY Like This, INSIDE!
OUR SON WON'T PERISH WHEN OUR DOOMED WORLD EXPLODES! THIS ROCKET WILL TAKE HIM TO A SAFE PLANET!
M MY BABY!!!

"YOU WILL BELIEVE A COMIC CAN BE FUNNY!"

CEREBUS AV AARDVARK-VANHELSING™

Extra! HONORABLE MENTION OF THE... JUSTICE LEAGUE of SOCIETY™!

A MUST-HAVE DOUBLE-BAG COLLECTOR'S ITEM ISSUE!!

ON SALE JANUARY

DON'T MISS IT!

eliminates half of our problem. We'll have to see if one of the volunteers to compile the figures can be found amongst the many candidates who were interested in 1982.

The BATMAN cards generally go for about 50 cents each here—which I'd say is out of line in comparison to their lack of rarity, especially in comparison to the comics of that period, which are downright cheap. But such are the vagaries of card collecting. MT]

[The following letter was postmarked December 15 and received by us on December 21. Leonard Herman died on January 2, 1984.]

LEN HERMAN, Brooklyn, NY: I would like to correct an error in your **Marvel News** column last issue [#215].

I, and not Tom DeFalco, am the writer of **PLANET TERRY** and several other new Marvel titles scheduled for May 1984 release.

Warren Kremer is indeed the artist, as reported, and Sid Jacobson is the editor.

Warren, Sid and I came over from Harvey where I was the chief writer of **RICHIE RICH** and **JACKIE JOKERS** for the past twelve years.

Tom DeFalco, of course, is heavily involved in this new project, and he is Supervising Editor.

Congratulations on a fine publication and best wishes to you and your staff for 1984.

MIKE BARON, Middleton, WI: Thought I'd add my two cents to the LOC controversy which has been raging in your pages. As writer of **NEXUS** and **THE BADGER**, I choose the letters that go into the columns. Some issues we get enough mail to choke Neil the Horse. Some issues we get a handful of letters written with broken crayon on torn grocery bags. The prime criterion for choosing which letters to run is that they be well-written. A letterhack who can explain himself clearly, who says something about the comic that is both entertaining and informative, whether positive or negative, is the person whose letter we're going to print.

The reason we have run so many of T.M. Maple's letters is quite simply that they are interesting. They are well-written. Maple knows how to explain himself. He also types his letters neatly with fresh ribbon on white paper. Listen—we're **dying** for good letters! So, take a hint from the Maple. Be smart and type clean. Incidentally, Maple, your pseudonym does come across as an affectation. Take a hint from those with nothing to hide—you notice Harlan Ellison isn't afraid for people to know his address, even though he probably has pissed off more people than you or I will in our lifetimes.

Also, in case anyone noticed, our books have been coming out smartly on schedule, thank you. Canadian customs didn't help. We get the books printed in Montreal and everytime we send a package over the border, Canadian customs arbitrarily chooses tiny little Capital Comics to inspect. The big boys don't seem to experience this problem.

[Mike's address, which is contained on the top of his letter, was deleted by me as a matter of policy; if a professional doesn't care if his address appears or not, please let me know and I'll include it; otherwise, I am assuming that people wanting to write to Mike Baron can simply address their letters to him at Capital Comics. MT]

JERRY DeFUCCIO, 12 Duncan Avenue, Jersey City, NJ 07304: Happy Different Year!

I am endeavoring to do a creditable job on the life and times of Charles Biro, for Robert Overstreet: the exalter of the muscat grape, the Tennessee walking horse, and the perdurable comic book.

Hopefully, your readers may know the whereof and the whereabouts of two former Biro artists, **Bart Tumey** and **Jack Alderman**.

[We have a lot of veteran comic book people on our mailing list, and, hopefully, one of them will, Jerry. MT]

TCR MESSAGE

Why is this issue late? Nature conspired against us, for one thing. And there always seems to be more work than time to do it in. I would like to say that we **want** to get out an issue of TCR every month, but either I'm spending hours on the phone begging the distributors to pay their bills, or the flu puts me out for a day, or the typesetting system finds a new use for the old phrase "hours of work down the drain," or the temperature drops to -20° and for ten days my car either won't run or has to be shared with the rest of the family whose cars are in even worse shape. But all we can say to you readers is — we're trying!

Another often delayed project around the office is the return of the **TCR TOP 100 COMICS SURVEY**. Over a year ago we mentioned we would bring it back if someone volunteered to handle the accounting end of the job — compiling all the sales figures for each book, and getting them into order. We had many volunteers, but there was still the problem of getting together the lists of books and mailing them to the shops who shared their information with us. This kept getting put off month after month, with severe guilt on our part with every "Bring back the **TOP 100**" letter we received. So we have put the dealer reporting list in **TCR** as part of the expanded Pocket Checklist, and will endeavor to start once again to chart what sells best in shops all over the country.

— Jerry Sinkovec

ET AL

Graphik Publications (P.O. Box 891, Savannah, TN 38372), which has been publishing **FIGMENTS**, a try-out black and white comic, will be publishing three color titles beginning in March. First will be **PROBE** by Frank Turner, a space-adventure comic, scheduled for March release; **FOOLS, INC.**, a science-fiction book by Dan Webb and Dave Schwartz, about a band of mercenaries, with a back-up by Topper Helmers called **The Black Kite**; and **TANDRA**, a comic reprinting Jim Hanther's story about a world of dragons, pirates, barbarian warriors and wizards, which has up to this point appeared in black-and-white graphic albums. The back-up is **Johann Wulfstar** by Dan Webb and Ted Boothanakat, and the book is scheduled for May. The try-out book, **FIGMENTS**, will be featuring **Constantine** by Stan Timmons and Craig Brasfield and **Starchild** by Dan Webb and Cliff Van Meter in **#4**, out in February, and **Starchild** and **The Shadowmaster** by Van Meter and Keith Royster in **#5**, out in April. The book is slated to become the fourth color book in the line. Graphik has also announced that they've signed an agreement with wrestler Jerry Lawlor for a comic book using him as a character by Cliff Van Meter and Topper Helmers; it will feature a time-travel story and the Roman coliseum, and it's presently planned as a black-and-white. All the color books will cost $1.75 for 32 pages and will be on quality stock.

Speaking of **Tandra** and Hanther, Southstar Publications has all six of the **TANDRA GRAPHIC ALBUM** series still available (P.O. Box 709, Corinth, MS). The black-and-white issues are of varying page-counts and

CRIME DOES NOT PAY.

AC COMICS

THE SCARLET SCORPION WILL MAKE DAMN SURE OF IT.

©1983 AMERICOMICS

by RIK LEVINS and KEVIN DZUBAN in

AMERICOMICS 6

ALSO: THE RETURN OF THE SHADE!

Distributed by Bud Plant, Glenwood, Sea Gate, Pacific, Styx, Capital City, Longhorn, and Diamond.

prices; **#1** is 40 pages ($1.25), **#2** and **6** are 64 pages ($1.50), and **#3** ($1.75), **4** and **5** ($1.25) are 48 pages. **#7**, entitled "Javilis," will be out in May and is scheduled to be in full-color; this may or may not be the same as the above-mentioned Graphik comic book. These prices are not postpaid; you probably should inquire as to the postage, though the package in which the issues were sent to us has 86 cents postage on it.

Don Chin's **COMICS REVIEW** magazine, which had carried United Feature's **PEANUTS, GARFIELD, FRANK AND ERNEST** and **THE BORN LOSER**, along with **B.C., THE WIZARD OF ID, MARVIN,** and **BLOOM COUNTY** from other syndicates, has had those comics from United pulled from its line-up as of **#3**. According to a sales representative of United Media Enterprises, the corporation which owns the syndicate, the publication of those strips in magazine form violated contracts the syndicate has with paperback publishers. In their stead, Chin has lined up King Features' **BLONDIE, BEETLE BAILEY** and **HAGAR THE HORRIBLE**, and the fourth slot will be a showcase feature beginning with Bob Laughlin's **KITZ AND KATZ**, a self-syndicated strip which has appeared in **THE COMICS BUYER'S GUIDE**, among other places.

Our pal in Britain, Martin Lock, has jumped into the comics-publishing business with the announcement of Harrier Comics, a new line of black-and-white comics with an American cover price of $1.70 or $1.75. The first comic in the line is **CONQUEROR**, a science-fiction series featuring a space battleship called the H.M.S. Conqueror. Lock will write and Dave Harwood will draw. Alan Moore will be Editorial Consultant for future books in the line, which will showcase the work of Eddie Campbell, Mike Collins, Mark Farmer, Cliff Robinson, Bill W. Ryan, Doris Telford and Lew Stringer. Both Lock and Harwood have worked for IPC on **2000 A.D.** and other titles and past episodes of **H.M.S. Conqueror** have appeared in the now-discontinued **BEM** fanzine. Titan Distributors will promote and distribute Harrier's books in the U.S. Harrier's address is 3 Marlow Court, Britania Square, Worcester, WR1 3DP, England.

WARRIOR No. 16. This issue: **Laser Eraser and Pushbutton** "Christmas on Depravity" by Curt Vile and Pedro Henry; **Marvelman** by Alan Moore and Alan Davis; **Twilight World** by Steve Moore and Jim Baikie; **Shandor** by Steve Moore and David Jackson; and **V For Vendetta** by Alan Moore and David Lloyd. Mick Austin did the cover featuring Marvelman. [1/26-2/2]

COMICS INTERVIEW No. 8, February. Interviewed: Steve Grant, Mike Baron, Frank Miller, and Neal Adams. Steve Rude did the cover. [1/20-1/27]

A DISTANT SOIL No. 1, January. A group of young people, some alien, some mythical, some normal, fight aliens in Norfolk, Virginia. Colleen Doran wrote and drew the issue with the aid of Richard Pini on the writing end. Doran did the cover. [January]

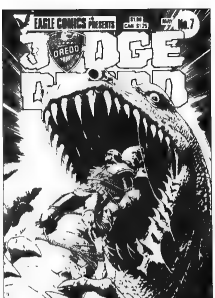
Quest Publications has issued **QUEST PRESENTS No. 3**, their first color issue. It features a 21-page **LANCE CARRIGAN OF THE GALACTIC LEGION** by Jay Disbrow in "The Mind of Quad." The back-up strip is "The Reflector" by Mike DeCarlo. The comic costs $1.50 and is available from the publishers for $2.00 postpaid at 40 La Salle Road, Room 202, West Hartford, CT 06107. (If I may be allowed a subjective comment in the news section, I might say that the color work on this book is awfully nice. MT)

Coming up from Quest will be an adaptation of E.C. Tubb's **DUMAREST OF TERRA** by Joe Gill and Frank McLaughlin. Also slated for the spring is an adaptation of **DRAY PRESCOTT** by Jay Disbrow. **QUEST PRESENTS #4** will feature **LANCE CARRIGAN** by Disbrow, and should be out first among these books.

EAGLE COMICS NEWS

Titan Distributors has added a line of accessories featuring Eagle Comics characters to its distribution operation. Beginning this month, Titan is offering twelve color T-shirts, 13 full-color 1 1/4" badges, eight 1 3/4 x 2"-high miniature metal figures, and a gold-plated replica **Judge Dredd** badge. The miniature figures include Judge Dredd, Judge Anderson, Robo-Hunter, Fergee, Judge Caligula, Judge Death, Judge Fear, Judge Fire and Judge Mortis.

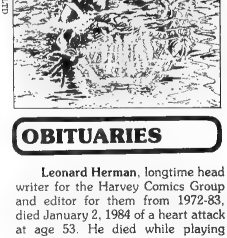
JUDGE DREDD No. 6, April. "Cursed Earth" Part 2 is by Pat Mills, Brian Bolland and Mike McMahon. Still battling to get the plague serum to Mega-City Two, Judge Dredd encounters a cute alien named Tweak. Bolland did the cover. [1/4 1/11]



© 1985 EAGLE COMICS LTD.

JUDGE DREDD No. 7, May. "The Cursed Earth" Part Three is by Pat Mills, John Wagner and Mike McMahon. Judge Dredd battle Satanus, a bull Tyrannosaurus Rex who has escaped from Dinosaur National Park. Brian Bolland did the cover. [1/25-2/1]

ROBO-HUNTER No. 2, May. "The Planet of Robots" Part Two is by John Wagner and Ian Gibson. On the run, Sam searches for the leader of the advance robot team. Also, the Harlem Heroes star in the back-up, wherein an "accident" wipes out all but three members. Gibson did the cover. [1/25-2/1]



© 1985 EAGLE COMICS LTD.

OBITUARIES

Leonard Herman, longtime head writer for the Harvey Comics Group and editor for them from 1972-83, died January 2, 1984 of a heart attack at age 53. He died while playing

SUBSCRIPTION-PLUS COMICS COMPANY

Owned and Operated by Ramon and Shawnee Sundquist

P.O. Box 27907 Raleigh, N.C. 27611

As fellow collectors, we ran into several problems in trying to order our comics through other subscription services. Ordering directly from the publisher locked us into a year long subscription and when ordering from a service, we felt we were catering to their rules rather than getting individualized service.

So, Shawnee and I talked it over and decided that we would provide a collector service as individualized as the service we were searching for.

- We offer 25% off list with no minimum order. (Only need 3 or 4 particular comics per month? That's fine with us—*no minimum*)
- Packing second to none! Remember, we're collectors too and know there is nothing worse than receiving comics damaged in transit.
- We have other numerous options and services that we're sure you'll find surprising, pleasing and unique.

For more information, send us your name and address and we will send you a detailed list of all our services.

Ramon & Shawnee

handball, his second heart attack; the first had occurred while playing handball seven years ago. Along with former Harvey artist Warren Kremer and editor Sid Jacobson, Herman had created three new titles for the new Marvel children's line of comics: **TOP DOG**, **PLANET TERRY** and **ROYAL ROY**. Herman's other credits include miscellaneous writing for Marvel's **CRAZY MAGAZINE**, and he did work for **SICK MAGAZINE**. A vice president of the Cartoonists Guild, he

Lenny Herman

was also an established single-panel cartoonist, having been published in **READER'S DIGEST, SATURDAY EVENING POST, LOOK, LADIES' HOME JOURNAL, TV GUIDE, McCALL'S, COLLIERS, COSMOPOLITAN, ARGOSY, TRUE, WALL STREET JOURNAL, CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR,** and the King and McNaught Syndicates. His longest association was with **FLOOR COVERING WEEKLY**, a trade magazine to which he contributed for thirty years.

Raoul Vezina, 35, died November 14, 1983 of a severe asthma attack. His most famous work was for FantaCo's **SMILIN' ED COMICS** which ran from 1980-82 and starred a rat named Smilin' Ed Smiley. His work also appeared in most FantaCo publications, **NEW PALTZ COMICS** and in a back-up slot in **CEREBUS**.

According to **THE COMICS BUYER'S GUIDE**, underground artist **Rory Hayes** died recently. He had been active in the early '70s for the San Francisco Comic Book Comapny, and his work appeared in **SLOW DEATH COMICS, BOGEYMAN COMICS, INSECT FEAR** and **ARCADE**. He was 33.

CAPITAL COMICS NEWS

NEXUS #6 features the first crossover of characters in Capital Comics, as the Badger joins Nexus and the Hammer to form an alliance to stay alive in a mad and violent place called the Bowl-Shaped World.

© 1983 CAPITAL PUBLICATIONS, INC.

The story will continue through **#8**, but it will not affect the continuity in **THE BADGER**, though a story in **#4** of that book is related to this sequence.

Richard Bruning points out that **MARVEL AGE**'s claim that Charles Truog's first professional work would appear in **COYOTE #4** is erroneous; Truog's first art appeared in **THE BADGER #2**.

© 1983 CAPITAL PUBLICATIONS, INC.

NEXUS No. 6. "The Ultimate Bizarre Object" is by Mike Baron and Steve Rude. After going through a black hole, Nexus and Judah Maccabee find themselves trapped on a bowl-shaped planet and stripped of their powers, with their only hope of returning home an enormous tower on a plateau in the middle of the bowl, which is thousands of miles away. The Badger guest-stars. Rude and Les Dorscheid did the cover. [1/24-2/7]

WHISPER No. 2. "Under Heavy Manners" is by Steven Grant and Rich Larson. Alexis Devin returns to New York to get herself on track and begin a new job, but the U.S. government and the Japanese underworld both want to see that she doesn't. Larson and Les Dorscheid did the cover. [1/10-1/24]

THE BADGER No. 4. "Dogfight" is by Mike Baron and Jeff Butler. The Badger finds out what it's like to be on both sides of an illegal gambling ring. Butler and Les Dorscheid did the cover. [2/14-2/28]

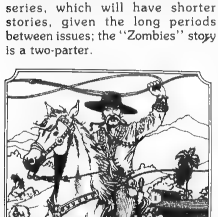
ECLIPSE COMICS NEWS

Whoops. A gross mistatement of fact occurred a few issues back, and I've only recently had it pointed out to me by Dean Mullaney that Eclipse Comics has never had cash flow problems and that **DNAgents** has indeed been behind schedule. I guess I was crossing a couple of rumors I'd heard in my mind and got the story screwed up; I'm genuinely sorry if this has caused any of our readership to write letters of condolence to Eclipse. Promise I won't do it again, Dean.

Dean Mullaney wishes it known that, Sam Kujava's comments in our last issue notwithstanding, **THE ART OF STEVE DITKO** is still an ongoing project, with publication now planned for later this year. Steve Ditko, in fact, did a piece of art for the book.

As of **DESTROYER DUCK #5**, both of the original creators of the book, Steve Gerber and Jack Kirby, will be leaving the strip to the hands of others. With **#6**, Gerber will be replaced by his friend from the animation field, Buzz Dixon, who has worked for Ruby-Spears, Filmation

and Marvel, and has also sold a mystery story to **ELLERY QUEEN MYSTERY MAGAZINE**. His first story will be "Zombies in Paradise." Replacing Kirby will be Hawaiian cartoonist Gary Kato, who has been assisting Terry Beatty on **MS. TREE**. Gerber will remain as editor of the series, which will have shorter stories, given the long periods between issues; the "Zombies" story is a two-parter.



© 1981 MADNERIE PRODUCTIONS

Carlos McLlyr

A new series has been added to the line-up in **ECLIPSE MONTHLY**. Entitled **Carlos McLlyr, Adventures of the Californio**, the strip is set in 1845 California and stars Carlos McLlyr, a native Californian of mixed parentage (half Spanish, half Irish), and features his quest to undo damage caused by the ancient Blake Rune of Llyr and to avenge his father's death. The stories will be ten pages, and will be by Christy Marx and Peter Ledger. Marx has written for TV and movies and wrote **Conan** and **Red Sonja** stories for Marvel. Ledger has been primarily known as a colorist/painter, having done work on Marvel's **Warriors of the Shadow Realm** and Another Rainbow's **UNCLE SCROOGE** limited edition. He'll be hand-painting the pages of **CARLOS McLLYR** as well as drawing them. The strip debuts in the February issue of **ECLIPSE MONTHLY, #6**.

All Eclipse titles save **DNAgents, MS. TREE** and **ZOT** will be printed using laser-scan color as of issues out in December. Jo Meugniot will do finished color on **SABRE**, with back-up strips **The Melissa Siren** (in **#7** and **8**) and **Crimson Dawn** each colored by their respective artists, Kent Williams and Michael Hernandez. Alfredo Alcala is coloring **DESTROYER DUCK**, Denis McFarling will color the **Masked Man** in **ECLIPSE MONTHLY** and **AZTEC ACE**, and Marshall Rogers will color **SCORPIO ROSE** and **CAP'N QUICK AND A FOOZLE**. All the **STAR* REACH CLASSICS** issues will also contain finished color.

The series of pin-ups of famous detectives in **MS. TREE** which had been done by Frank Miller, will be Mike Grell in **MS. TREE #6** and **7**. Grell will do Mickey Spillaine's Tiger Mann and Morgan the Raider, which will both be accompanied by Fact Files by Max Allan Collins based on Collins' upcoming book **ONE LONELY KNIGHT: MICKEY SPILLAINE'S MIKE HAMMER**. Frank Miller will continue to appear on an irregular basis; his next pin-up features Sam Spade.

COMING COMICS

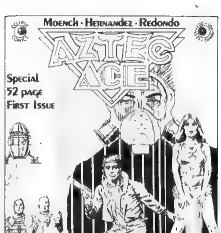
ECLIPSE MONTHLY No. 5, January. This issue features **Rio** by Doug Wildey in "Satan's Doorstep": Rio is captured by Geronimo; "The Trial" by B.C. Boyer starring in the **Masked Man** series; and a new episode of **Cap'n Quick and a Foozle** by Marshall Rogers. Doug Wildey did the cover. [1/17-1/24]

AZTEC ACE No. 1, January. "The Mexicali Serpent" is by Doug Moench, Michael Hernandez and Nestor Redondo. A time-traveller from the future, Aztec Ace owns a time machine called the Azure Crosstime Express which he uses to visit and live in time periods as varied as ancient Mexico, Kansas City in the '50s and the 22nd century. This issue is 48 pages and features the slug-slime. Hernandez and Tom Yeates did the cover. [1/24-1/31]

DNAgents No. 9, January. "The Crossfire Papers" is by Mark Evanier, Will Meugniot, Al Gordon and Dan Spiegle. The character Crossfire dies and is resurrected. Meugniot and Gordon did the cover. [1/24-1/31]

SABRE No. 8, January. "An Exploitation of Everything Dear: Death" is by Don McGregor, Billy Graham and Bruce Miller. A major character is killed, and Blackstar Blood battles Joyful Slaughter. The **Melissa Siren** chapter is "There's Always a First Time For Everything" by Kent Williams. [1/24-1/31]

DESTROYER DUCK No. 6, February. "Zombies in Paradise" is by Buzz Dixon, Gary Kato and Alfredo Alcala. Duke Duck gets a couple of partners to help him try to find out if Little Guy is still alive. The next chapter of **The Starling** by Jerry

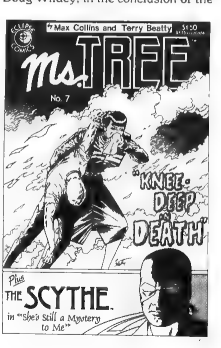


© 1981 DOUG MOENCH AND MIKE HERNANDEZ

Siegel and Val Mayerik features Bob Zane discovering something startling about his alien father. Gary Kato and Alfredo Alcala did the cover. [2/21-2/28]

DNAgents No. 10, February. "The Whole World Knows" is by Mark Evanier, Will Meugniot and Al Gordon. The DNAgents have been revealed to the public, as the team sets out to track down Crossfire's killer. Watch for a **CROSSFIRE** series to be spun off this book by Mark Evanier and Dan Spiegle. Meugniot and Gordon did the cover. [2/21-2/28]

ECLIPSE MONTHLY No. 6, February. Now 32 pages, the book features three strips on an alternating basis: **The Masked Man** "Confessions" by B.C. Boyer, as Barney goes over his career with Dick Carstairs after being replaced by reporter Dan Drekston; **Rio** "Satan's Doorstep Part Two" by Doug Wildey, in the conclusion of the



© 1981 COLLINS AND BEATTY

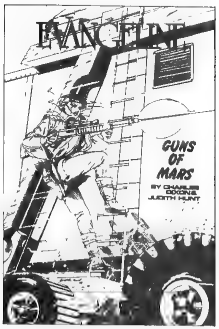
story begun last month; and **Carlos McLlyr, Adventures of the Californio** by Christy Marx and Peter Ledger, beginning the series with "Old Gods, New World." Boyer did the cover. [2/21-2/28]

MS. TREE No. 7, February. "The Cold Dish: Chapter 7—Visiting Hours" and "Chapter 8—Knee-Deep in Death" are by Max Allan Collins and Terry Beatty with Gary Kato. The **Scythe** story is "She's Still a Mystery to Me" by Dean Mullaney, Ellis Goodson and Timothy Truman. Plus another **Mike Mist** mystery. Beatty did the cover. [2/21-2/28]

COMICO NEWS

AZ No. 3. The last black-and-white issue is by Phil LaSorda, Neil Vokes and Rich Rankin. [January]

EVANGELINE No. 1. "Guns of Mars" is by Charles Dixon, Judith Hunt and Ricardo Villagran. A revenge-seeking nun of the future is under orders of the Vatican. Hunt did the cover. [January]



MAGE No. 1. This new series is done by Matt Wagner, previously responsible for **GRENDEL**. Wagner did the cover. [January]

PRIMER No. 6. In this issue: a twelve-page preview of **Evangeline** by Charles Dixon and Judith Hunt; **Gauntlet** by Neil Vokes and Rich Rankin; **Holiday Out** by Michael Lail and Grass Green; **Over the Edge** by Al Weissner; and **Victor** by Andrew Murphy. [January]

SKROG No. 2. Story by Bill Cucinotta, art by Bill Anderson. [January]

GRENDEL No. 3. By Matt Wagner. [February]

PRIMER No. 7. In this issue: **Falconer** by Neil Vokes and Matt Wagner; **Cue** by Reggie Byers and Bill Anderson (a **SKROG** spin-off); **Heart of Stone** by Ron Kasman; **Ravager** by Tom Arvis; **Crystal Man** by Russ Martins; **Bugs** by Mario Vavorro; and **Friends of the Deceased** by Bruce McCorcindale. [February]

KITCHEN SINK NEWS

THE SPIRIT No. 3, February. Stories in this issue (from February 17-March 10,1946) include: "Introducing Blubber," "Rockhead Stone," "The Feud" and "The Fly." Eisner did the cover. [2/14-1/21]

Milton Caniff's STEVE CANYON MAGAZINE No. 5, February. A five-month sequence featuring the introduction of Capt. Akoola is featured. Also, an article by Ron Goulart on Caniff's work on **DICKIE DARE**. Peter Poplaski did the cover. [2/14-2/21]

WILL EISNER'S QUARTERLY No. 2, February. The story begun in **A CONTRACT FROM GOD** continues, and Will Eisner interviews Gill Fox. The eighth **Spirit** story, "Eldas Thayer," a **Mr. Mystic** and a **Lady Luck** story comprise the color section. Will Eisner did the cover. [2/14-2/21]

AMERICOMICS NEWS

AMERICOMICS No. 6, April. "Origin of the Scarlet Scorpion" is by Rik Levins and Kevin Dzuban. A critically injured man is injected with a serum which gives him super-powers. Plus, the Shade stars in "Terror Flight" by Levins and Dzuban. Steve Lightle and Jerry Ordway did the cover. [February]

BLACK DIAMOND No. 5, April. "Dark Intruder" is by Don Secrease and Kevin Dzuban. Tianna battles a strange undersea being In the Aegean Sea. And Colt stars in "The Menace of Montague Moon" by Don Secrease and Dzuban. [February]

NIGHTVEIL No. 2, April. "Blood Rites" is by Steve Ringgenberg, Mark Heike and Bill Anderson. Nightveil encounters a demon cult and religious fanatics. The **Scarlet Scorpion** stars in the back-up in a story by Rik Levins and Kevin Dzuban. Heike and Anderson did the cover. [February]

STARMASTERS No. 1, April. Delayed from December. "W.O.S.P." by Tom Lyle and "Breed" by Paul Ryan. [February]

A COMIC READER

By Sam Kujava

QUOTE FOR THE DAY: "I've often been asked why I use certain writers and artists. Why Kanigher, Toth, Ditko, Vicatan, Boltinoff, Barretto and so forth. My choice of the men I work with was an easy one. I've gone for the best money can buy. Men I can work with. Men who are reliable. Men who meet their deadlines. You, friend, see the results of my endeavors each time you pick up another one of my magazines. On time. As promised. No excuses." —Robin Snyder.

NATHANIEL DUSK #1 is out, evoking yawns and expressions of disbelief in comic shops all over the land. Anybody who has read a few

detective stories will find McGregor's comic-book private eye a second-rate Marlowe, a warmed over Spade, a humorless rip-off of a half-a-hundred paperback detectives. Don adds nothing of interest to the detective/mystery genre, unless you want to count the hilarious, ridiculous, anachronistic conversation of pages 13 and 14.

As for art...who is DC kidding? Who is Gene Colan fooling?

MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE: THE SUNBIRD LEGACY is an 8 1/2" x 11" squarebacked comic album with a nice painted cover by Earl Norem and 64 action-packed pages on good-stock paper, written by Roger McKenzie and drawn by Adrian Gonzales and Fred Carrillo. If DC or Marvel produced this, the paper would be even slicker and it would cost you about six bucks. From Western Publishing Company, this is the bargain of the year at...$2.95!

FROM Steel Dragon Press (Box 7523 Powderhorn Station, Minneapolis, MN 55407) comes, appropriately enough, **STEEL DRAGON STORIES #1**, a $1.50 collection of short strips by Matt Feazell, Tom Dolan, Keith Tuxhorn, Will Shetterly, Dennis Wolf, Reed Waller and Emma Bull. Nothing here to set the world on fire, but the enthusiasm is there and ambitions run high...so it's a nice little comic for the money. And that koala detective, Edgar Allen, may be the next biggest animal star in comics since Howard the Duck and Cerebus the Aardvark!

HOW many months has it been since the theft of original art from the Marvel warehouse was discovered? Or, rather, uncovered? Why does the remainder sit there, still a target for the sneak thief? Why isn't this work, what remains of it that is, returned to Ditko, Heck, Goldberg, Ayers and the others? From my wind-swept winter outpost in Green Bay, I can only proclaim disgust that this shameful situation is allowed to go on. Any Woodward and Berstein types out there, closer to the Big Apple, willing to dig deep and expose this big story to the world?

TOO many fanzines to keep up with? Eyes tearing and vision blurring at the latest interview with Marv Wolfman? Give your peepers a rest and **listen** to **COMICAST #1...the Radio Comic Fanzine**. This nice cassette tape is produced by Clint McElroy, Stephen Scott Beau Smith and Mark Near out of the wilds of West Virginia, contains the latest news of upcoming comics, telephone interviews with the likes of Mike Barr and Carol Kalish, and a very informative, rambling conversation with **THOR** hotshot Walt Simonson. I'm not sure how large a market this is designed for, how regular the tapes will come and how current they can remain, but I support this fine fan effort wholeheartedly.

COINCIDENCE and contrast.. Frank Miller took his **RONIN** on a time trip from the past to the near future. Now **Kana the Shadow Warrior** meditates his way from the fury of World War II to the medieval barbarism of 6th-century Japan. Part One of the is multi-chapter saga is on view in Murray Boltinoff's **G.I. COMBAT = 264**, the April, 1984 issue. Similar characters, same company...but two completely different approaches. Each fascinating, each worthy of your perusal. Perverse fellow that I am, I like **Kana** and **RONIN** both. Immensely!

X-MEN FANS! You may wake up now. **PHOENIX: THE UNTOLD STORY** is a high-priced one-shot which presents the original version of the Death of Phoenix tale. This is accompanied by the Dark Phoenix Saga, a chit-chat behind-the-scenes look at what happened between conception and execution, courtesy of Byrne, Claremont, Shooter, Salicrup, Jones and Austin. The sparse layout of the latter offering strikes this reviewer as padding of the worst sort. Anyhow, the Claremont/Byrne work is nice to see again, ample reminder of how good this collaboration was.

QUITE simply, the **best** thing I've read in many months is not a comic book but a fanzine interview with Robert Kanigher, the first part appearing in **THE COMICS JOURNAL #85**. Robin Snyder captures the writer on paper, but, like a caged beast, Kanigher paces his cell relentlessly, looking for an opening. Those screams you hear are the dying cries of the continuity clowns, the untalented bookkeepers, who got too close to the bars. Love him, hate him, but never ignore him...Kanigher the interviewee is at least as lively as Kanigher the writer.

DC's STAR TREK is a happy surprise. Mike Barr is doing a very serviceable job at the writing helm. This looks like the book that will make his reputation, if the first two issues are any indication. The art by Sutton and Villagran is sharp, capturing the likenesses of the main characters without showing the warts. I'm anxious for the rather extended first storyline to conclude, so we can get on to the planned stories that Barr has mentioned in the comic and in the fanzines. If that isn't an example of a **hooked** reader, how's this.. **STAR TREK** is one of DC's best books in many a month!

THE MAILMAN just delivered an advance copy of **MARVEL SUPER-HEROES: THE SECRET WARS #1**! What a great premise for a super-spectacular comic series! It's a kind of thing longt-time fans wished that Stan and Jack would have tackled back in the '60s. But it's two decades later, so you'll have to settle for script by Jim Shooter and art by Mike Zeck and John Beatty, who do a great job at capturing that goofy excitement that used to be present in **every** Marvel Comic. The artists, especially, excel at drawing large numbers of heroes and villains and making them easily recognizable. Oh, it's the kind of "mere" comic book that Cat Yronwode will probably wipe her critical nose with, but **SECRET WARS** is not worthy of **that** degree of scrutiny. It's fun, pulse-pounding, full of your favorite good guys and bad guys, and looks to be a big financial success for Marvel in '84.

I'M looking forward to this Christmas. Warmth and sentimentality seem to be stylish again. With the arrival in our household of little Lee Isaac, Lynn, Jake and I are enjoying our lives together, and each other, more than ever before. Man, the Good Ol' Days are **right now**!

To all of the friends I've made through my years in fandom, my odyssey at Kubie U., and the new friends I've met through this column, have a sweet, loving Christmas, with best wishes from yours truly. And may 1984 be busy and prosperous for all. Especially this itinerant writer/artist!

Sam Kujava/1157 S. Fisk/Green Bay, WI/54304

POCKET CHECKLIST

DC COMICS

- ☐ Action Comics #554
- ☐ All-Star Squadron #32
- ☐ Amethyst, Princess of Gemworld #12
- ☐ Arak/Son of Thunder #32
- ☐ Arion, Lord of Atlantis #18
- ☐ Atari Force #4
- ☐ Batman #370
- ☐ Batman & the Outsiders #9
- ☐ Batman Special #1
- ☐ The Best of DC #47 (S & S)
- ☐ Blackhawk #269
- ☐ DC Comics Presents #68
- ☐ Detective Comics #536
- ☐ The Flash #332
- ☐ The Fury of Firestorm #22
- ☐ G.I. Combat #264
- ☐ Green Lantern #175
- ☐ Green Lantern/Green Arrow #7
- ☐ Infinity, Inc. #2
- ☐ Jonah Hex #83
- ☐ Justice League of America #225
- ☐ Legion of Super-Heroes #310
- ☐ Nathaniel Dusk #3
- ☐ The New Adventures of Superboy #52
- ☐ New Talent Showcase #4
- ☐ The Omega Men #13
- ☐ Saga of Swamp Thing #23
- ☐ Sgt Rock #387
- ☐ Star Trek #3
- ☐ Supergirl #18
- ☐ Superman #394
- ☐ Tales of the Teen Titans #41
- ☐ Thriller #6
- ☐ The Vigilante #5
- ☐ Warlord #80
- ☐ Wonder Woman #314
- ☐ World's Finest Comics #302

AARDVARK-VANAHEIM

- ☐ Cerebus the Aardvark #58
- ☐ Neil the Horse Comics and Stories #6
- ☐ normalman #1

WaRP Graphics

- ☐ A Distant Soil #1*

AMERICOMICS

- ☐
- ☐
- ☐

ECLIPSE

- ☐ Aztec Ace #1
- ☐ DNAgents #9
- ☐ Eclipse Monthly #5
- ☐ Sabre #8

CAPITAL

- ☐ Nexus #6
- ☐ Whisper #2

WHITMAN

- ☐ Bugs Bunny #244
- ☐ Bugs Bunny #245
- ☐ Daffy Duck #144
- ☐ Little Lulu #268
- ☐ Looney Tunes #46
- ☐ The Pink Panther #87
- ☐ Popeye the Sailor #170
- ☐ Woody Woodpecker #201

CHARLTON

- ☐ Battlefield Action #86
- ☐ Beyond the Grave #14
- ☐ Fightin' Army #169
- ☐ Fightin' Navy #130
- ☐ Ghostly Tales #166
- ☐ War #44

ARCHIE

- ☐ Archie #328
- ☐ Archie's Pals 'n' Gals #168
- ☐ Betty and Me #138
- ☐ Blue Ribbon Comics #6
- ☐ Everything's Archie #110
- ☐ Jughead Jones Digest #28
- ☐ Jughead with Archie Digest #61
- ☐ Laugh Comics Digest #51
- ☐ Life With Archie #241
- ☐ The Mighty Crusaders #6
- ☐ Pep #393
- ☐ Steel Sterling #5

QUALITY COMMUNICATIONS

- ☐ Warrior #16

EAGLE

- ☐ Judge Dredd #6

COMICO

- ☐ Az #3
- ☐ Evangeline #1
- ☐ Mage #1
- ☐ Primer #6
- ☐ Skrog #2

On Sale January

[Shipping In December]

Interested Shops: Please fill in sales figures for the above books and return this page to Street Enterprises

DEALER SURVEY FORM

MARVEL

- ☐ The A-Team #2
- ☐ Alpha Flight #9
- ☐ Amazing Spider-Man #251
- ☐ The Avengers #242
- ☐ Captain America #292
- ☐ Conan the Barbarian #157
- ☐ Coyote #4
- ☐ Daredevil #205
- ☐ The Defenders #130
- ☐ Doctor Strange #64
- ☐ Fantastic Four #265
- ☐ The Further Adventures of Indiana Jones #16
- ☐ The Generic Comic #1
- ☐ G.I. Joe #22
- ☐ Hercules #2
- ☐ The Incredible Hulk #294
- ☐ Iron Man #181
- ☐ The Jack of Hearts #4
- ☐ Ka-Zar the Savage #31
- ☐ Kull the Conqueror #4
- ☐ Marvel Age #13
- ☐ Marvel Tales #162
- ☐ Marvel Team-Up #140
- ☐ Micronauts Special Edition #5
- ☐ The New Mutants #14
- ☐ Peter Parker, the Spectacular Spider-Man #89
- ☐ Phoenix #1
- ☐ Power Man and Iron Fist #104
- ☐ Rom #53
- ☐ Savage Sword of Conan #98
- ☐ Star Wars #82
- ☐ The Thing #10
- ☐ Thor #342
- ☐ The Uncanny X-Men #180
- ☐ U.S. 1 #9
- ☐ What If? #44 (Hulk)
- ☐ The X-Men and the Micronauts #4

FIRST

- ☐ American Flagg! #8
- ☐ Beowulf Graphic Novel
- ☐ E-Man #14
- ☐ Jon Sable, Freelance #12
- ☐ Mars #5
- ☐ Starslayer #16
- ☐ Warp #13

OTHER RELEASES

- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

POCKET CHECKLIST

DC

- ☐ Action Comics #555
- ☐ All-Star Squadron #29
- ☐ Arak/Son of Thunder #33
- ☐ Arion, Lord of Atlantis #19
- ☐ Atari Force #5
- ☐ Batman #371
- ☐ Batman & the Outsiders #10
- ☐ The Best of DC #48
- ☐ Blackhawk #270
- ☐ Camelot 3000 #11
- ☐ DC Comics Presents #69
- ☐ Detective Comics #538
- ☐ The Flash #333
- ☐ The Fury of Firestorm #23
- ☐ G.I. Combat #265
- ☐ Green Lantern #176
- ☐ Infinity, Inc. #2
- ☐ Jonah Hex #84
- ☐ Justice League of America #226
- ☐ Legion of Super Heroes #311
- ☐ Manhunter #1
- ☐ Nathaniel Dusk #4
- ☐ The New Adventures of Superboy #49
- ☐ New Talent Showcase #5
- ☐ The Omega Men #14
- ☐ Ronin #5
- ☐ Saga of Swamp Thing #24
- ☐ Sgt. Rock #388
- ☐ Star Trek #4
- ☐ Supergirl #19
- ☐ Superman #395
- ☐ Tales of the Teen Titans #42
- ☐ Thriller #6
- ☐ The Vigilante #6
- ☐ Warlord #81
- ☐ Wonder Woman #315
- ☐ World's Finest Comics #303

EAGLE

- ☐ Judge Dredd #7
- ☐ Robo-Hunter #1

CAPITAL

- ☐ The Badger #4

KITCHEN SINK

- ☐ The Spirit #3
- ☐ Steve Canyon Magazine #5
- ☐ Will Eisner's Quarterly #2

ECLIPSE

- ☐ Destroyer Duck #6
- ☐ DNAgents #10
- ☐ Eclipse Monthly #6
- ☐ Ms. Tree #7

On Sale February

(Shipping in January)

FIRST

- ☐ American Flagg! #9
- ☐ E-Man #15
- ☐ Jon Sable, Freelance #13
- ☐ Mars #6
- ☐ Starslayer #17
- ☐ WarpSpecial #3

AMERICOMICS

- ☐ Americomics #6
- ☐ Black Diamond #5
- ☐ Nightveil #1*
- ☐ Starmasters #1

ARCHIE

- ☐ Archie and Me #144
- ☐ Archie Annual Digest #44
- ☐ Archie...Archie Andrews Where Are You? #44
- ☐ Archie Comics Digest #65
- ☐ Archie At Riverdale High #96
- ☐ Archie's Girls, Betty and Veronica #329
- ☐ Archie's TV Laugh-Out #94
- ☐ Blue Ribbon Comics #7
- ☐ The Fly #6
- ☐ Jughead #333
- ☐ Katy Keene Special #3
- ☐ Laugh #382
- ☐ Little Archie Annual Digest #14
- ☐ The Original Shield #1

AARDVARK-VANAHEIM

- ☐ Cerebus the Aardvark #59

WHITMAN

- ☐ Alice in Wondeland #1
- ☐ Donald Duck #243
- ☐ Donald Duck #244
- ☐ Huey, Louie and Dewey Junior Woodchucks #79
- ☐ Peter Pan #1
- ☐ Uncle Scrooge #206
- ☐ Uncle Scrooge #207
- ☐ Winnie-the-Pooh #32

COMICO

- ☐ Grendel #2
- ☐ Primer #7

QUEST

- ☐ Dumarest of Terra #1
- ☐ Quest Presents #4

OTHER RELEASES

- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

Interested Shops: Please fill in sales figures for the above books and return this page to Street Enterprises

DEALER SURVEY FORM

MARVEL

- ☐ Alpha Flight #10
- ☐ Amazing Spider-Man #252
- ☐ The A-Team #3
- ☐ The Avengers #243
- ☐ Captain America #293
- ☐ Conan the Barbarian #158
- ☐ Conan the King #22
- ☐ Daredevil #206
- ☐ The Defenders #131
- ☐ Dr. Strange Classics #3
- ☐ The Elektra Saga #3
- ☐ Epic Illustrated #23
- ☐ Fantastic Four #266
- ☐ Fantastic Four Special Edition #1
- ☐ The Further Adventures of Indiana Jones #17
- ☐ G.I. Joe #23
- ☐ Hercules #3
- ☐ The Incredible Hulk #295
- ☐ Iron Man #182
- ☐ Marvel Age #14
- ☐ Marvel Fanfare #14
- ☐ Marvel Fumetti Book #1
- ☐ Marvel Super Heroes Secret Wars #1
- ☐ Marvel Tales #163
- ☐ Marvel Team-Up #141
- ☐ Micronauts #58
- ☐ Moon Knight #37
- ☐ The New Mutants #15
- ☐ The Official Handbook of the Marvel Universe #15
- ☐ Peter Parker, the Spectacular Spider-Man #90
- ☐ Power Man and Iron Fist #105
- ☐ Rom #54
- ☐ The Saga of Crystar #7
- ☐ Savage Sword of Conan #99
- ☐ Star Wars #82
- ☐ The Thing #11
- ☐ Thor #343
- ☐ The Uncanny X-Men #181

CHARLTON

- ☐ Attack #46
- ☐ Fightin' Marines #174
- ☐ Ghost Manor #74
- ☐ Gunfighters #84
- ☐ Haunted #73
- ☐ Scary Tales #44

PACIFIC

- ☐ The Fall of the House of Usher #1
- ☐ Silverheels #3
- ☐ Somerset Holmes #4
- ☐ Twisted Tales #8
- ☐ Vanity #1
- ☐ Vanguard Illustrated #4

CALL THE MINICON HOTLINE
312-743-4493

AMERICA'S FINEST COMIC BOOK SHOWS!

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

March 4, 1984
April 8, 1984
May 20, 1984

DOORS OPEN AT 11:00 AM
75¢ ADMISSION · DEALER TABLES $25.00
AMERICANA-CONGRESS HOTEL
520 S. MICHIGAN AVENUE, CHICAGO

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Prepare Yourself For
The NINTH Annual

CHICAGO COMICON
JULY 6-8, 1984

The BIGGEST COMICON Ever!
Over FIFTY Guests! And MORE!
NOW at the BIGGER, BETTER Ramada-O'Hare Hotel!
(Fully Air-Conditioned! Two Swimming Pools!)
At Higgins and Mannheim Roads
Free Parking or Take Hotel Bus from O'Hare Subway Stop!
(CHICAGO COMICON: 1219 DEVON, CHICAGO IL 60660, 312-274-1832)

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

DC COMING COMICS

AMETHYST, PRINCESS OF GEMWORLD No. 12, April. "Darkness Falls" is by Dan Mishkin, Gary Cohn and Ernie Colon. The maxi-series concludes as Amethyst and Dark Opal have their final showdown. The series will return in a few months Colon did the cover. [12/20-1/12]

ATARI FORCE No. 4, April. "Families" is by Gerry Conway, Ross Andru and Jose Luis Garcia Lopez. The original Atari Force returns as the Dark Destroyer attacks, and Dart battles Tempest. Garcia Lopez did the cover. [12/13-1/5]

THE BEST OF DC No. 47, April. Contrary to early reports, this is an all reprint **SUGAR AND SPIKE** issue. Stories include: "Egg, Sunnyside Down" (from **SUGAR AND SPIKE #88**); "Grown-Up Talk" (**S&S #52**); "Photo Finish" (**S&S #2**); "Little Giants"; "Double Trouble" (**S&S #9**); "How to Play Loozum" (**S&S #2**); "Runaway Dump-Truck", "Where's the Toozit Tree?" (**S&S #93**); "First Echo" (**S&S #25**); "Zelda, the Walking Riot" (**S&S #91**); "Busy Corners" (**S&S #1**); and "What's a Flumsh" (**S&S #90**). All stories are by Sheldon Mayer. Mayer did the cover.]12/13-1/5]

BLACKHAWK No. 269, April. "Changes" is by Mark Evanier and Dan Spiegle. Still in Germany after failing to kill Hitler, and the Gaynor-led Blackhawks meet Killer Shark for the first time. Spiegle did the cover. [12/13-1/5]

DC COMICS PRESENTS No. 68, April. "Destiny's Children" is by Gerry Conway, Curt Swan and Murphy Anderson. Superman and

Vixen battle a videogame-born plot to steal the brainiest children by Admiral Cerebrus Gil Kane did the cover. [12/13-1/5]

THE FURY OF FIRESTORM No. 22, April. "The Secret Origin of Firestorm" is by Gerry Conway, Pat Broderick and Sal Trapani. Firestorm retells his origin to Firehawk. Rafael Kayanan and Dick Giordano did the cover. [12/13-1/5]

JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA NO. 225, April. "Let There Be Light" is by Joey Cavalieri, Chuck Patton and Pablo Marcos. The JLA takes on the menace of the Church of Everlasting Light and an occult demon called Hellrazer. Patton and Sal Amendola did the cover. [12/13-1/5]

WONDER WOMAN No. 314, April. "The Nature of the Beast" is by Dan Mishkin and Don Heck. The battle with Circe leads into one with a new Aztec villain called Tezcatlipoca, as Sofia studies Wonder Woman's past. The Huntress stars in "Life is For the Lion-Hearted" by Joey Cavalieri, Mark Beachum and Gary Martin. Gil Kane did the cover. [12/13-1/5]

ARAK/SON OF THUNDER No. 32, April. "Dragon's Doom" is by Roy Thomas, Ron Randall and Rick Magyar. Arak and Satyricus meet St. George's dragon--a being now known today as Tyrannousaurus Rex. Randall did the cover. [12/20-1/12]

BATMAN No. 370, April. "Up Above the Sin So High" is by Doug Moench, Don Newton and Alfredo Alcala. With Batman away, Robin seeks to prove himself, and they reunite to battle Dr. Hang. Ed Hannigan and Dick Giordano did the cover. [12/20-1/12]

THE FLASH No. 332, April. "Defend the Flash And Die?" is by Cary Bates, Joey Cavalieri, Carmine Infantino and Frank McLaughlin. The Flash's lawyer is in danger, mostly due to the Flash. Also, the Flash/Green Lantern team is reunited. Infantino and Dick Giordano did the cover. [12/20-1/12]

G.I. COMBAT No. 264, April. "The Saint and the Panzer" is the sole **Haunted Tank** story in this issue, by Robert Kanigher and Sam Glanzman. The other stories are: "The AWOL Army" by Arnold Drake and Ruben Yandoc, "Boy in a Bomber" by Robert Kanigher and Gerry Talaoc; and Kana, the Shadow Warrior in "Origin of the Human Killing Machine" by Kanigher and E.R. Cruz. Joe Kubert did the cover. [12/20 1/12]

MORE THAN 40 NEW PAGES!
THE WAR BOOK
G.I. COMBAT
ORIGIN OF KANA, NINJA-SHADOW WARRIOR
"BOY IN A BOMBER"
THE A.W.O.L. ARMY
"HAUNTED TANK" THE SAINT AND THE PANZER
© 1983 DC COMICS INC.

GREEN LANTERN/GREEN ARROW No. 7, April. The series concludes with reprints from **GL #89** and **FLASH #217-219**. "And Through Him Save a World," "The Killing of an Archer," "Green Arrow is Dead" and "The Fate of an Archer" are by Denny O'Neil and Neal Adams, with Dick Giordano's inks on the second and third stories. 56 pages, no ads. Adams did the cover. [12/20 1/12]

THE OMEGA MEN No. 13, April. "The Sacrifice of Security" is by Roger Slifer, Tod Smith and Mike DeCarlo. Primus gets his eye back and the fate of Broot's wife is revealed. Smith and DeCarlo did the cover. [12/20 1/12]

STAR TREK No. 3, April. "Errand of War" is by Mike Barr, Tom Sutton

and Ricardo Villagran. The Oraganian peace treaty looks as if it will be broken, as both sides are fed slanted information about the other. George Perez did the cover. [12/20-1/12]

SUPERMAN No. 394, April. "The Man Who Would Be President" is by Elliot Maggin, Curt Swan and Dave Hunt. An unknown named Bucky Berns gets an endorsement from Superman and seems a shoo-in as the next President of the United States. Paris Cullins and Dick Giordano did the cover. [12/20-1/12]

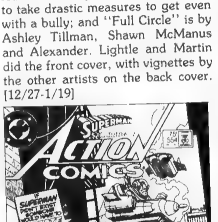
TALES OF THE TEEN TITANS No. 41, April. "Baptism of Blood" is by Marv Wolfman, George Perez and Romeo Tanghal. The book gets a new title as the battle with Baron Blood builds to a climax. George Perez did the cover. [12/20-1/12]

THE VIGILANTE No. 5, April. "Witnesses" is by Marv Wolfman, Keith Pollard and Romeo Tanghal. The story begun last month is concluded. Pollard did the cover. [12/20-1/12]

GREEN LANTERN No. 175, April. "Shark Bait" is by Len Wein and Dave Gibbons. The super-evolved Shark returns to face GL. Also, the reunion of GL and Flash. Gibbons did the cover. [12/27-1/19]

THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES No. 310, April. "Omen" is by Paul Levitz, Keith Giffen and Larry Mahlstedt. The purveyor of death, destruction and darkness finally makes his appearance. Giffen and Mahlstedt did the cover. [12/27-1/19]

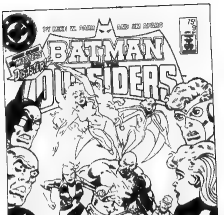
NEW TALENT SHOWCASE No. 4, April. Four all-new strips/series begin: "Ekko, Part One" by Rich Margopoulos, Steve Lightle and Gary Martin features a doctor who discovers he has strange powers; "Who Is the Feral Man?" is by Steve Ringgenberg, June Brigman and Rick Magyar, and involves a volunteer for a 1990 CIA experiment to become a half-man, half-wolf agent; "Bobcat" is by Mike Tiefenbacher, Stan Woch and Karl Kesel, and features a ten-year-old who is forced to take drastic measures to get even with a bully; and "Full Circle" is by Ashley Tillman, Shawn McManus and Alexander. Lightle and Martin did the front cover, with vignettes by the other artists on the back cover. [12/27-1/19]



SGT. ROCK No. 387, April. "What Makes a Hero?" is by Robert Kanigher and Frank Redondo. A contrast is explored between a gung-ho recruit and a man who claims to be a pacifist. Also, "Winter Soldier" by Kanigher and Ric Estrada is reprinted from **OUR ARMY AT WAR #263**. Joe Kubert did the cover. [12/27-1/19]

SUPERGIRL No. 18, April. "Call Me—Kraken" is by Paul Kupperberg, Carmine Infantino and Bob Oksner. Supergirl faces a menace called Kraken, who is master of water and endangering all shipping on Lake Michigan. Meanwhile, someone's spying on Linda and her friends. Howard Bender and Dick Giordano did the cover. [12/27-1/19]

WARLORD No. 80, April. "Future Trek" is by Cary Burkett, Dan Jurgens and Dan Adkins. When Shakira goes outside Reno's time-warp lab, Travis is shocked by her findings. Also, **The Barren Earth** continues with "Desert Pursuit" by Gary Cohn and Ron Randall. Jurgens and Dick Giordano did the cover. [12/27-1/19]



ACTION COMICS No. 554, April. "If Superman Didn't Exist..." is by Marv Wolfman and Gil Kane. Superman's existence, as well as that of every other hero, super or otherwise, have been erased from Earth's history, and two kids named Jerry and Joe may be the Earth's only salvation. Kane did the cover. [1/3-1/26]

ALL-STAR SQUADRON No. 32, April. "Crisis on Earth-X: The Prequel" is by Roy Thomas, Rick Hoberg and Bill Collins. Uncle Sam, Midnight and Doll Man are all that stand between Earth-X's succumbing to an invasion of California in 1942. The second in the five-part Freedom Fighters origin story. Jerry Ordway did the cover. [1/3-1/26]

ARION, LORD OF ATLANTIS No. 18, April. "Blood Brothers" is by Paul Kupperberg, Jan Duursema and Bob Smith. How did Atlantis sink? Perhaps it has something to do with the battle between Arion and his brother Garn—in Arion's own body. Duursema did the cover. [1/3-1/26]

BATMAN AND THE OUTSIDERS No. 9, April. "The Masters of Disaster" is by Mike Barr and Jim Aparo. A new team of villains called the Masters of Disaster—New Wave, Heatstroke, Coldsnap, Shakedown, and Windfall—are after Black Lightning, and they don't care if the Outsiders get in their way. Also, Halo solos in "Battle For the Band" by Barr and Bill Willingham. Aparo did the cover. [1/3-1/26]

BATMAN SPECIAL No. 1, April. "The Player on the Other Side" is by Mike Barr, Michael Golden and Mike DeCarlo, a special "all-Mike" team. Batman faces the Wrath, a costumed assassin whose parents were killed

By Gary Cohn, Dan Mishkin, Paris Cullins and Pablo Marcos.

We've made comics fun again!

The new DC. There's no stopping us now!

*Indicates trademark of DC Comics Inc. Copyright © 1984 DC Comics Inc.

by a policeman the same night Bruce Wayne's were killed by Joe Chill. 25 years later, the pair meets in battle in Crime Alley, as the Wrath is after his parents' killer: Commissioner Gordon. Golden did the cover. [1/3-1/26]

DETECTIVE COMICS No. 536, April. "Down Below" is by Doug Moench, Gene Colan and Bob Smith. Also, Green Arrow appears in "Strike First" by Joey Cavalieri and Shawn McManus. Colan and Dick Giordano did the cover. [1/3-1/26]

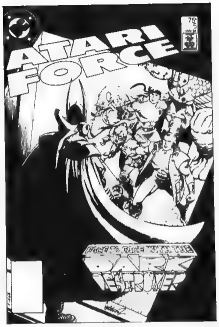
JONAH HEX No. 83, April. "Blues in the Bottle...Stopple in My Hand" is by Michael Fleisher and Tony DeZuniga. Jonah's got the blues, and hits the bottle—but a gang of killers is after him, as usual. Ed Hannigan and Mike DeCarlo did the cover. [1/3-1/27]

NATHANIEL DUSK No. 3, April. "Lovers Die at Dusk, Part III" is by Don McGregor and Gene Colan. The cops want Dusk for murder and a hit-man is on his trail. Colan and Dick Giordano did the cover [1/3-1/26]

THE NEW ADVENTURES OF SUPERBOY No. 52, April. "The Caveman of Smallville" is by Paul Kupperberg and Kurt Schaffenberger. The stories expand to book-length and the strip is overhauled as Clark Kent's life will endure drastic changes. Superboy meets an old hermit who is not all he seems. Schaffenberger and Ricardo Villagran did the cover. [1/3-1/26]

THE SAGA OF SWAMP THING No. 23, April. "Another Green World" is by Alan Moore, Steve Bisette and John Totleben. The Floronic Man's about to take over the world, and the only thing that could stop him, Swamp Thing, is in a catatonic state.

© 1985 DC COMICS, INC.



© 1985 ATARI, INC.

(No, not New Hampshire.) Tom Yeates did the cover. [1/3-1/26]

WORLD'S FINEST COMICS No. 302, April. "The Superman-Batman Split" by Cary Bates, Neal Adams and Dick Giordano is reprinted from **WF #176**. Also included is a new five-pager, "No Rest For Heroes" by David Kraft, Dave Mazzucchelli and Rodin Rodriguez. Ed Hannigan and Klaus Janson did the cover. [1/3-1/26]

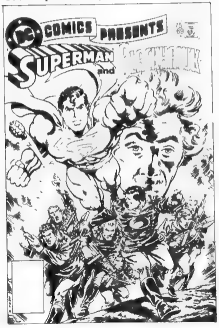
ATARI FORCE No. 5, May. "Dark Dawn" is by Gerry Conway, Ross Andru and Jose Luis Garcia Lopez. The team is finally formed and they take on the Dark Destroyer. Garcia Lopez did the cover. [1/10-2/2]

© 1985 DC COMICS, INC.

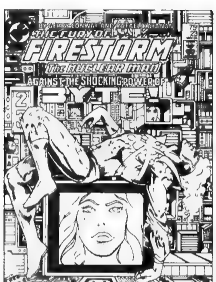
THE BEST OF DC No. 48, May. This issue spotlights Super-Team Action, and the stories are: Superman and Batgirl in "Wild Weekend in Washington" by Elliot Maggin, Curt Swan and Bob Oksner (**SUPERMAN #268**); Superman and Green Lantern in "Beware the Hero-Killers" by Cary Bates, Swan and Tex Blaisdell (**ACTION #444**); Superman in "The Fantastic Feats of Captain Strong" by Bates, Swan and Murphy Anderson (**ACTION #421**); the Flash and the Elongated Man in "The Mystery Man Who Walked on Air" by Mary Skrenes and Dick Giordano (**DETECTIVE #449**); Superman, Batman and Metamorpho in "The Freak Who Never Fails" by Bob Haney, Dick Dillin and Blaisdell (**WORLD'S FINEST #226**), Green Arrow and Black Canary in "The Plot to Kill Black Canary" by Maggin and Giordano (**ACTION #428**); and "Killers Come in All Sizes" by Haney, Dillin and John Calnan (**WORLD'S FINEST #236**). Howard Bender and Dick Giordano did the cover. [1/10-2/2]

© 1985 DC COMICS, INC.

BLACKHAWK No. 270, May. "Killer Shark" is by Mark Evanier and Dan Spiegle. The Earth-One team has their first battle with their longtime enemy. Spiegle did the cover. [1/10-2/2]



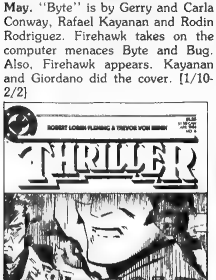
© 1985 DC COMICS, INC.



© 1985 DC COMICS, INC.

DC COMICS PRESENTS No. 69, May. "Back to World War II" is by Mark Evanier, Irv Novick and Dennis Jensen. Superman goes back to the early '40s to find out the story behind a possibly bogus Perry White byline, and meets the Blackhawks and Albert Einstein. Novick and Dick Giordano did the cover. [1/10-2/2]

THE FURY OF FIRESTORM No. 23, May. "Byte" is by Gerry and Carla Conway, Rafael Kayanan and Rodin Rodriguez. Firehawk takes on the computer menaces Byte and Bug. Also, Firehawk appears. Kayanan and Giordano did the cover. [1/10-2/2]



© 1985 DC COMICS, INC.

JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA No. 226, May. "Hell on Earth" is by Joey Cavalieri, Chuck Patton and Frank McLaughlin. The battle vs. the menace of Hellrazer continues. Paris Cullins and Dick Giordano did the cover. [1/10-2/2]

THRILLER No. 6, May. "A One and a Two" is by Bob Fleming, Trevor von Eeden and Dick Giordano. Kane Creole is both the subject of a biographical musical comedy at Radio City Music Hall and the perpetrator of a bank robbery at the same time. Von Eeden did the cover. [1/10-2/2]

WONDER WOMAN No. 315, May. "Welcome to the Hall of Mirrors" is by Dan Mishkin and Don Heck. Diana and Keith are prisoners of Tezcatlipoca's followers. Also, the Huntress appears in "Chasing Rainbows" by Joey Cavalieri, Mark Beachum and Gary Martin. More about the Sea-Lion. Paris Cullins and Dick Giordano did the cover. [1/10-2/2]

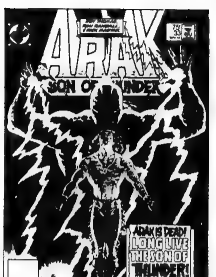
© 1985 DC COMICS, INC.

ARAK/SON OF THUNDER No. 33, May. "To Your Sky-Born Father Go" is by Roy and Danette Thomas, Ron Randall and Rick Magyar. A dead Arak journies to the Happy Hunting Grounds—but instead decides to return to Earth as a shaman. Randall did the cover. [1/17-2/9]

BATMAN No. 371, May. "Nine Cradles of Death" is by Doug Moench, Don Newton and Alfredo Alcala. Batman battles Catman. Ed Hannigan and Dick Giordano did the cover. [1/17-2/9]

THE FLASH No. 333, May. "Down With the Flash" is by Cary Bates, Carmine Infantino and Frank McLaughlin. Flash huddles with his new lawyer over his manslaughter defense—unaware that she hates him. Infantino and Dick Giordano did the cover. [1/17-2/9]

G.I. COMBAT No. 265, May. "Promise to a Dead Soldier" is by Robert Kanigher and Sam Glanzman. The non-Haunted Tank material is:



© 1985 DC COMICS, INC.

Kana in "Samurais of Death" by Kanigher and E.R. Cruz; the Soldiers of Fortune in "Deserters Never Look Back" by Kanigher and Vic Catan; and Super-Spy in "Killer Light" by Kanigher and Jerry Grandenetti. Joe Kubert did the cover. [1/17-2/9]

MANHUNTER No. 1, May. The entire series is reprinted from its run in **DETECTIVE #437-443**, all by Archie Goodwin and Walt Simonson. The stories: "The Himalayan Incident," "The Manhunter File," "The Resurrection of Paul Kirk," "Rebellion," "Cathedral Perilous," "To Duel the Master" and "Gotterdammerung." Simonson did the new cover. [1/17-2/9]

© 1985 DC COMICS, INC.

THE OMEGA MEN No. 14, May. "Confessions" is by Todd Klein, Tod Smith and Ricardo Villagran. No further information. Smith and Mike DeCarlo did the cover. [1/17-2/9]

STAR TREK No. 4, May. "Deadly Allies" is by Mike Barr, Tom Sutton and Ricardo Villagran. The Enter-

prise's only hope of salvation are—Klingons. George Perez did the cover. [1/17-2/9]

SUPERMAN No. 395, May. "The Power and the People" is by Elliot Maggin, Curt Swan and Dave Hunt. Bucky Berns is under the control of America's enemies, and Superman must prevent him from becoming the next U.S. president. Gil Kane did the cover. [1/17-2/9]

© 1985 DC COMICS, INC.

TALES OF THE TEEN TITANS No. 42, May. "The Eyes of Tara Markov" is by Marv Wolfman, George Perez and Dick Giordano. The first of the three-part "Judas Contract" which will introduce a new member. Perez did the cover. [1/17-2/9]

THE VIGILANTE No. 6, May. "Fatality" is by Marv Wolfman, Chuck Patton and Pablo Marcos. Beginning the new origin of Vigilante. Ross Andru and Dick Giordano did the cover. [1/17-2/9]

BATMAN AND THE OUTSIDERS

© 1985 DC COMICS, INC.

© 1985 DC COMICS, INC.

No. 10, May. "The Execution of Black Lightning" is by Mike Barr, Steve Lightle and an inker. The Masters of Disaster want to off Black Lightning—and he's going along with it. Jim Aparo did the cover. [1/24-2-16]

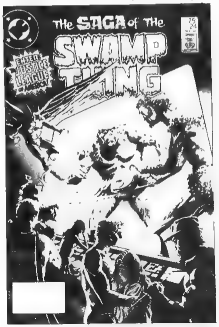
GREEN LANTERN No. 176, May. "Enter: The Demolition Team" is by Len Wein and Dave Gibbons. A new team of villains: Steamroller, Jackhammer, Rosie, Hardhat and Steamshovel—the Demolition Team—is out to destroy Ferris Aircraft. Gibbons did the cover. [1/24-2/16]

INFINITY INC. No. 2, May. "A Gauntlet Hurled" is by Roy Thomas, Jerry Ordway and Mike Machlan. The origin continues as Power Girl, the Huntress and Star Spangled Kid leave the JSA to join the new, younger team, just as the Ultra-Humanite launches the plot that led in last year's JLA/All-Star Squadron team-up. Machlan and Ordway did the cover. [1/24-2/16]

THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES No. 311, May. "Destruction By Design" is by Paul Levitz, Keith Giffen and Larry Mahlstedt. Brainiac 5 has destroyed the Legion headquarters because of Computo/Danielle Foccart. The back-up story is "A Shared Destiny" by Levitz, Gene Colan and Mahlstedt. Dawnstar finds her pre-destined mate. Giffen and Mahlstedt did the cover. [1/24-2/16]

NEW TALENT SHOWCASE No. 5, May. "Ekko, Part 2" is by Rich Margopoulous, Steve Lightle and Gary Martin; Feral Man continues in "Run For the Shadows" by Steve Ringgenberg, Chris Carlson and Karl Kesel; Return of the Dragon Knights in "Isle of the Kraken, Part 1" by Scianna, Scarborough and Pharms; and "Moon River" by Mindy Newell, Sherman Tereno and Mark Alexander, make up the issue. All of the features are on the wraparound covers. [1/24-2/16]

THE SAGA OF SWAMP THING No. 24, May. "Roots" is by Alan Moore, Steve Bissette and John Totleben. Swamp Thing meets the Justice League of America. Bissette and Tom Yeates did the cover. [1/24-2/16]



© 1985 DC COMICS, INC.

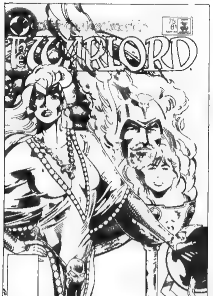
SGT. ROCK No. 388, May. "Bulldozer's Angel" is by Robert Kanigher and Frank Redondo. Bulldozer takes charge of a wounded girl. Also, "Hero's Eyes" by Jack Harris and Lindsay, plus a Joe Kubert School **Battle Album**. Joe Kubert did the cover. [1/24-2/16]

SUPERGIRL No. 19, May. "Who Stole Supergirl's Life?" is by Paul Kupperberg, Carmine Infantino and Bob Oksner. Both Linda Danvers and Supergirl go through life as usual—

© 1985 DC COMICS, INC.

separately. Ed Barreto and Bob Oksner did the cover. [1/24-2/16]

WARLORD No. 81, May. "Thief's Magic" is by Cary Burkett, Dan Jurgens and Dan Adkins. Joshua returns. **The Barren Earth** continues with "Other Survivors" by Gary Cohn and Ron Randall. Jurgens and Dick Giordano did the cover. [1/24-2/16]



ACTION COMICS No. 555, May. "Reunion" is by Paul Kupperberg, Curt Swan and Dave Hunt. Supergirl battles the Parasite through Superman's eyes in this story which will be told via Supergirl's vantage point in **SUPERGIRL #20**. Ed Barreto and Bob Oksner did the cover [1/31-2/23]

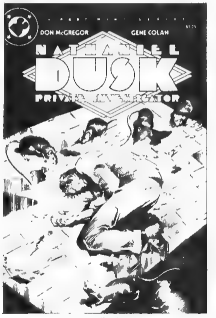
ALL-STAR SQUADRON No. 33, May. "The Battle of Santa Barbara Times Two" is by Roy Thomas, Rick Hoberg and Bill Collins. The famed Japanese shelling of California in 1942 is amplified on Earth-X to a full-scale invasion attempt. Hoberg and Jerry Ordway did the cover. [1/31-2/23]

ARION, LORD OF ATLANTIS No. 19, May. "Wilderness" is by Paul Kupperberg, Jan Duursema and Bob Smith. Distraught over the destruction he believes he caused, Arion leaves Wynde's city for the wilderness. Duursema did the cover. [1/31-2/23]

CAMELOT 3000 No. 11, May. Mike Barr, Brian Bolland and Terry Austin are supposed to deliver this book for this week, but chances are against it. Bolland did the cover [1/31-2/23]

DETECTIVE COMICS No. 538, May. The battle with Catman continues in this story by Doug Moench, Gene Colan and Bob Smith. Plus, a **Green Arrow** story by Joey Cavalieri and Shawn McManus. Colan and Dick Giordano did the cover. [1/31-2/23]

JONAH HEX No. 84, May. "Carnival



of Doom" is by Michael Fleisher and Tony DeZuniga. Jonah's killers in this issue are costumed, as he's in New Orleans at Mardi Gras time. Ed Hannigan and Tony DeZuniga did the cover [1/31-2/23]

NATHANIEL DUSK No. 4, May. "Lovers Die At Dusk, Part IV" is by Don McGregor and Gene Colan. The concluding chapter has Nathaniel finding his quarry. Colan and Dick Giordano did the cover. [1/31-1/23]

THE NEW ADVENTURES OF SUPERBOY No. 53, May. "To Slay a Superboy" is by Paul Kupperberg, Kurt Schaffenberger and Joe Giella. The Superboy Revenge Squad and crooked politicians are after Superboy and Pa Kent, respectively. Schaffenberger and Murphy Anderson did the cover. [1/31-2/23]

RONIN No. 5, May. "Book V" is by Frank Miller. The penultimate chapter. Miller did the cover. [1/31-2/23]

WORLD'S FINEST COMICS No. 303,

May. "Plague" is by David Kraft, Mike Chen and Pablo Marcos. Metropolis has only 48 hours to find a cure from a snow-plague, and Superman and Batman are their only hope. Ed Hannigan and Klaus Janson did the cover. [1/31-2/23]

MARVEL COMING COMICS

DAREDEVIL No. 205, April. "The Gael" is by Denny O'Neil, William Johnson and Danny Bulanadi. An Irish girl being pursued by the I.R.A. comes to Foggy Nelson for help, and Matt overhears Johnson and Joe Rubinstein did the cover. [12/6-12/27]

KA-ZAR THE SAVAGE No. 31, April. "But I Don't Want to Go Back to the Savage Land" is by Mike Carlin, Paul Neary and John Beatty. Ka-Zar is being deported from Pangea, while Shanna tries to calm him. Neary and Carl Potts did the cover. [12/6-12/27]

THE NEW MUTANTS No. 14, April. "Do You Believe In—Magik?" is by Chris Claremont, Sal Buscema and Tom Mandrake. In a sequel to the **MAGIK** mini-series, Illyana and the New Mutants battle S'ym. Tom Mandrake did the cover. [12/6-12/27]

THE THING No. 10, April. "Marking Time" is by John Byrne, Ron Wilson and Hilary Barta. In a flashback to the time between **FF #1** and **2**, a newly transformed Ben Grimm gets a very unfriendly welcome. Wilson and Joe Rubinstein did the cover. [12/6-12/27]

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN No. 251, April. "Endings" is by Roger Stern, Tom DeFalco, Ron Frenz and Klaus Janson. The duel to the death with Hobgoblin prefaces Spider-Man's disappearance. Ed Hannigan and Klaus Janson did the cover. [12/13-1/3]

CAPTAIN AMERICA No. 292, April. "An American Christmas" is by J. Marc De Matteis, Paul Neary and Ed Barreto. A new person shows up in the guise of Black Crow. Also: a Christmas party. Neary did the cover. [12/13-1/3]

COYOTE No. 4, February. "How Coyote Drank His Jinn" is by Steve Englehart, Charlie Truog and Bob Wiacek. Coyote is trapped between a power struggle between the Shadow Cabinet and Israeli and Arab agents including one named Jinn. Truog did the cover. [12/13-1/3]

DOCTOR STRANGE No. 64, April. "Artrage" is by Ann Nocenti and Tony Salmons. Strange investigates a haunting and uncovers the menace of sorceror Claude von Moore. Salmons did the cover. [12/13-1/3]

THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF INDIANA JONES No. 16, April. "The Sea Butchers, Part 2" is by David Michelinie, Herb Trimpe and Vince Colletta. On the North Pacific, Indy battles the elements as well as Esmerelda for valuable Chinese relics. Trimpe did the cover. [12/13-1/3]

THE GENERIC COMIC BOOK No. 1, April. "A Super Hero" is by Steve Skeates, Dave Morris, Mary Wilshire, Bob Camp, Larry Hama and a band of inkers. One hero battles one villain. No artificial additives. Direct sales only. No artists did the cover. [12/13-1/3]

THE OFFICIAL MARVEL COMICS TRY-OUT BOOK No. 1, April. The art-board, $12.95 book designed by Jim Shooter and John Romita Jr to provide a place to practice comics-producing skills has been delayed due to a mix-up in pagination, calling for an explanatory insertion. Romita Jr. and Al Milgrom did the cover. [12/13-1/3]

PHOENIX No. 1, April. "The Fate of the Phoenix" is by Chris Claremont, John Byrne and Terry Austin and appears in revised form from **X-MEN #137.** The original ending conceived before Jim Shooter ordered a new ending done is presented. Also contains an article about the change and the creators' views. Byrne and Austin did the cover. [12/13-1/3]

THE SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN No. 98, April. "The Blood Ruby of Death" is by Michael Fleisher and John Buscema. This issue was plotted by Buscema. Michael Golden did the cover. [12/12-1/3]

THOR No. 342, April. "The Last Viking" is by Walt Simonson and Terry Austin. Thor battles an old Norseman to bolster the old man's pride, and Thor reveals a new power that he possesses. Simsonson did the cover. [12/12-1/3]

U.S. 1 No. 9, April. "Big Mack Attack" is by Al Milgrom, Alan Kupperberg and Mike Esposito. The secret of Midnight is revealed Michael Golden did the cover. [12/13-1/3]

THE X-MEN AND THE MICRONAUTS No. 4, April. "Doppelganger" is by Chris Claremont, Bill Mantlo, Butch Guice and Bob Wiacek. It's the universe or Professor X when it comes down to offing the Entity. Guice and Wiacek did the cover. [12/13-1/3]

THE A-TEAM No. 2, April. "Who Kidnapped Kuramoto?" is by Jim Salicrup, Jim Mooney and Joe Giella. A trio of brothers who own a video-game company hire the A-Team to locate their missing father. John Tartaglione and Fred Kida did the cover. [12/20-1/10]

THE AVENGERS No. 242, April. "Easy Come, Easy Go" is by Roger Stern, Al Milgrom, Joe Rubinstein and Brett Breeding. The Avengers see something in the air, and the Vision gets off his back and does something finally. Milgrom did the cover. [12/20-1/10]

CONAN THE BARBARIAN No. 157, April. "The Wizard" is by Michael Fleisher, John Buscema and Ernie Chan. Plotted by Buscema, this story features Conan overcoming various travails to rescue a queen from a wizard. (This **isn't** the generic comic book). Buscema did the cover. [12/20-1/10]

G.I. JOE, A REAL AMERICAN HERO No. 22, April. "Like Chimney Sweeps Come to Dust" is by Larry Hama, Mike Vosburg and Jon D'Agostino. The team's powerless against a nearby Cobra. Vosburg did the cover. [12/20-1/10]

THE INCREDIBLE HULK No. 294, April. "Guinea Pigs" is by Bill Mantlo, Sal Buscema and Gerry Talaoc Bommerang interrupts Dr Banner's gamma-ray research which is aiding humanity for a change. Ken Steacy painted the cover. [12/20-1/10]

MARVEL TALES STARRING THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN No. 162, April. "Spider-Man Goes Mad" is by Stan Lee and Steve Ditko, and originally appeared in **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #24.** Ditko did the cover [12/20-1/10]

POWER MAN AND IRON FIST No. 104, April. "Armageddon Game" is by Archie Goodwin, Greg LaRocque and Andy Mushynsky. Dr. Octopus takes over Dr. Curt Connors' lab, so Curt calls Heroes For Hire before he becomes the Lizard again. John Byrne did the cover. [12/20-1/10]

ROM No. 53, April. "Paranoia

A CRAZED KILLER IS ON THE LOOSE. THE BODY COUNT RISES. NEXT VICTIM IS...

BLACK DIAMOND

AC COMICS PRESENTS
BLACK DIAMOND
NO. 4. ALL COLOR
ALL BAXTER TEXT
$1.75

Distributed by Bud Plant, Glenwood, SeaGate, Pacific, Styx, Capital City, Longhorn, and Diamond.

Strikes Deep" is by Bill Mantlo, Sal Buscema, Mel Candido and Bill Sienkiewicz (and yes, before someone writes pointing out the allusion, Stephen Stills wrote the title). More contretemps with the Dire Wraiths. Sienkiewicz did the cover. [12/20-1/10]

THE UNCANNY X-MEN No. 180, April. "Whose Life is it Anyway?" is by Chris Claremont, John Romita Jr. and Dan Green. More in-fighting, and some disappearances. Romita Jr. and Green did the cover. [12/20-1/10]

ALPHA FLIGHT No. 9, April. "Things Aren't Always What They Seem" is by John Byrne. Sasquatch goes it alone. Also, a Snowbird solo story. Byrne did the cover. [12/27-1/17]

THE DEFENDERS No. 130, April. "And in the End" is by J. Marc De Matteis, Mike Zeck and Kim DeMulder. The Secret Empire is defeated but Professor Power is on the loose. Also: Nick Fury, Frank Cirocco painted the cover. [12/20-1/10]

FANTASTIC FOUR No. 265, April. "The House That Reed Built" is by John Byrne. With everybody out of town, the Baxter Building is free to be taken over by the Trapster. Also: "Home Are the Heroes" is by Byrne, and introduces a new member of the FF—She-Hulk. Byrne did the cover. [12/27-1/17]

HERCULES No. 2, April. "Red Wolf Stalks the Stars" is by Bob Layton. A new Red Wolf turns up—and he's a Skrull killer, and he's after Skyppi. Layton did the cover. [12/27-1/17]

IRON MAN No. 181, April. "Though Thy Life Be Forfeit" is by Denny O'Neil, Luke McDonnell and Steve Mitchell. No information available. McDonnell and Mitchell did the cover. [12/27-1/17]

THE JACK OF HEARTS No. 4, April. "Heart Attack" is by Bill Mantlo and George Freeman. The conclusion of the mini-series clarifies Jack's background. Freeman did the cover. [12/27-1/17]

MARVEL AGE No. 13, April. Jim Starlin did the cover. [12/27-1/17]

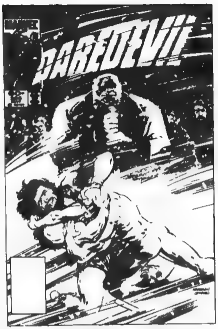
MARVEL TEAM-UP No. 140, April. "Where Were You When the Lights Went Out?" is by Bill Mantlo, Ron Frenz and Mike Esposito. Spider-Man, the Black Widow and Doris Day (uh, strike the latter) team-up to clear a boy wrongly accused of murder. Ed Hannigan and Klaus Janson did the cover. [12/27-1/17]

THE MICRONAUTS SPECIAL EDITION No. 5, April. "We Are the Enigma Force" and "To the Victors Belongs (sic) the Spoils" by Bill Mantlo, Mike Golden and Al Milgrom are reprinted from **MICRONAUTS #11** and **12**. Butch Guice and Al Milgrom did the cover. [12/17-1/17]

PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN No. 89, April. "Power Search" is by Bill Mantlo, Al Milgrom and Jim Mooney. Black Cat's after super-powers but the Kingpin's in her path. Milgrom did the cover. [12/27-1/17]

STAR WARS No. 82, April. "Diplomacy" is by Jo Duffy, Ron Frenz and Tom Palmer. Luke and the Rik Duel Gang's reunion is disrupted by another Empire doomsday weapon. Also: Kiro, the Water Breather. Frenz did the cover. [12/27-1/27]

WHAT IF? No. 44, April. "What If the Hulk Went Berserk?" Rick Jones is killed in the Gamma-Ray explosion which gave the Hulk his powers. Story by Peter Gillis, Ron Wilson, Ian Akin and Brian Garvey. Bill Sienkiewicz painted the cover. [12/27-1/17]



1986 MARVEL COMICS GROUP. A Division of Cadence Industries Corp. All Rights Reserved.

Bulanadi. DD battles Micah Syn while Foggy's better half is in trouble. Ed Hannigan and Klaus Janson did the cover. [1/3-1/24]

DOCTOR STRANGE CLASSICS No. 3, May. Reprinted are "What Lurks Beneath the Mask?," "Where Meet the Mystic Minds," and "If Eternity Should Fall" from **STRANGE TALES #136-138**, all by Stan Lee and Steve Ditko. Also included are pin-ups by Art Adams, Michael Golden, Steve Leialoha and Paul Smith. John Byrne and Al Milgrom did the cover. [1/3-1/24]

CONAN THE KING No. 22, May. "The Black Dragons" is by Alan Zelenetz and Geof Isherwood. Bedridden, Conan sends his crack legion into the marshes to search for his son's "killers." Also, Conn appears in an untitled story by Zelenetz and Marc Silvestri. Michael Kaluta did the cover. [1/381/24]

DAREDEVIL No. 206, May. "Every Good and Perfect Gift" is by Denny O'Neil. Dave Mazzucchelli and Dan

THE ELEKTRA SAGA No. 3, May. "Last Hand" by Frank Miller and Klaus Janson is reprinted from **DAREDEVIL #177-181**. Miller and Janson did the cover. [1/3-1/24]

MARVEL SUPER HEROES SECRET WARS No. 1, May. "The War Begins" is by Jim Shooter, Mike Zeck and John Beatty. Marvel's

© 1983 MARVEL COMICS GROUP, A Division of Cadence Industries Corp. All Rights Reserved.

mightiest heroes and villains are transported to a distant planet for a mysterious tournament. Zeck and Beatty did the cover. [1/3-1/24]

THE NEW MUTANTS No. 15, May. "Scaredy Cat" is by Chris Claremont, Sal Buscema and Tom Mandrake. Illyana and the New Mutants attempt to rescue Kitty Pryde from the Hellfire Club. Mandrake did the cover. [1/3-1/24]

THE THING No. 11, May. "Rocky Grimm, Space Ranger" is by John Byrne, Ron Wilson and Joe Sinnott. In a sequence following the just-begun **SECRET WARS** mini-series, Ben is left on the planet where he is able to change back to his human appearance. Wilson and Sinnott did the cover. [1/3-1/24]

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN No. 252, May. "Homecoming" is by Roger Stern, Tom DeFalco, Ron Frenz and Brett Breeding. After the **SECRET WARS**, Spider-Man has to contend with the new organic costume he's been given. Frenz and Klaus Janson. [1/10-1/31]

© 1983 MARVEL COMICS GROUP, A Division of Cadence Industries Corp. All Rights Reserved.

CAPTAIN AMERICA No. 293, May. "Field of Vision" is by J.M. DeMatteis, Paul Neary and Ed Barreto. Baron Zemo Jr. and Mother Superior turn Cap's peaceable friend Dave into a violent enemy. Neary and Joe Rubinstein did the cover. [1/10-1/31]

© 1983 MARVEL COMICS GROUP, A Division of Cadence Industries Corp. All Rights Reserved.

THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF INDIANA JONES No. 17, May. "The Grecian Earn" is by David Michelinie, Herb Trimpe and Vince Colletta. In part one of The Search For Abner (Marion's father), Indy and Marion journey to Greece. Trimpe did the cover. [1/10-1/31]

MICRONAUTS No. 58, May. "The Long and Winding Road" is by Bill Mantlo, Butch Guice and Kelley Jones. The war with Baron Karza concludes. Guice did the cover. [1/10-1/31]

MOON KNIGHT No. 37, May. "Red Sins" is by Alan Zelenetz, Bo Hampton and Armando Gil. Marc Spector's father is in the hospital while a gang vandalizes a synagogue. Also: a selection of Bill Sienkiewicz pin-ups. Michael Kaluta did the cover. [1/10-1/31]

THE OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE No. 15, May. The Book of Weapons, Hardware and Paraphenalia is a one-man job done by Elliot Brown. John Byrne and Joe Rubinstein did the cover. [1/10-1/31]

THE SAGA OF CRYSTAR, CRYSTAL WARRIOR No. 7, May. "Malachon" is by Jo Duffy and Ricardo Villamonte. Malachon finds out why he's leading a band of fighters against Crystalium barbarians. Michael Golden did the cover painting. [1/10-1/31]

THE SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN No. 99, April. "The Informer" is by Michael Fleisher and John Buscema with Ernie Chan. Shipwrecked, Conan joins a rebel alliance against an evil queen. The back-up is "One Night at the Maul" by Jim Owsley, Stan Woch and Ned Sonntag. Conan in a tavern. Joe Jusko did the cover. [1/10-1/31]

THOR No. 343, May. "If I Should Die Before I Wake" is by Walt Simonson. Eilif and Thor go to New York to stop Fafnir. Simonson did the cover. [1/10-1/31]

MARVEL
THE MIGHTY AVENGERS
THE VISION TAKES COMMAND!
HARPOS BATTLE BANDITS
SCARLET WITCH FIGHTS A FIEND
AND BARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES RETURN FROM THE SECRET WARS!

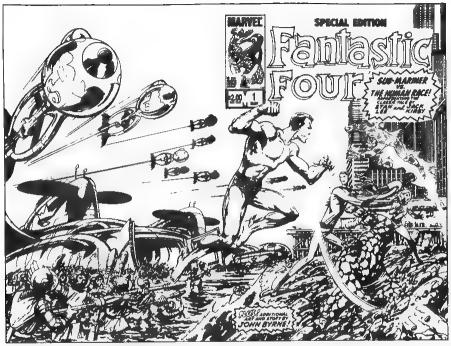
© 1983 MARVEL COMICS GROUP, A Division of Cadence Industries Corp. All Rights Reserved.

THE A-TEAM No. 3, May. "Flight of the Red Bird" is by Alan Kupperberg and Brian Moore. The third in the limited series, this issue will be the last until the sales are in. Marie Severin and John Tartaglione did the cover. [1/17-2/7]

THE AVENGERS No. 243, May. Story by Roger Stern and art by Al Milgrom and Joe Sinnott. With the rest of the Avengers off on their secret war, the Vision appoints himself new chairman and reorganizes the team. Milgrom and Sinnott did the cover. [1/17-2/7]

CONAN THE BARBARIAN NO. 158, May. "The Night of the Wolf" is by John Buscema and Michael Fleisher, Buscema and Rudy Nebres. Conan's allies are questionable when a wolf-creature attacks. Buscema did the cover. [1/17-2/7]

EPIC ILLUSTRATED No. 23, April. A new **Marada the She-Wolf** story leads off the issue and is by Chris



1980, MARVEL COMICS GROUP®. A Division of Cadence Industries Corp. All Rights Reserved.

Claremont and John Bolton. Also included are chapters of **Generation Zero** by Archie Goodwin and Pepe Moreno and **The Sacred and the Profane** by Ken Steacy and Dean Motter. Also, some **Cheech Wizard** material by the late Vaughn Bode. John Bolton did the cover. [1/17-2/7]

FANTASTIC FOUR SPECIAL EDITION No. 1, May. "Sub-Mariner Vs. the Human Race" is by Stan Lee, Jack Kirby and Dick Ayers. The 37-page story from **FANTASTIC FOUR ANNUAL #1** is reprinted, along with a new six-pager by John Byrne. Byrne did the cover. [1/17-2/7]

G.I. JOE, A REAL AMERICAN HERO No. 23, May. "Cobra Commander — Captured At Last" is by Larry Hama, Mike Vosburg and Jon D'Agostino. The Joes have their hands on their worst enemy, but for how long? Michael Golden did the cover. [1/17-2/7]

THE INCREDIBLE HULK No. 295, May. "Turning Point" is by Bill Mantlo, Sal Buscema and Danny Bulanadi. The Hulk returns from the Secret War with a bum leg, and Boomerang takes the opportunity to attack. Bill Sienkiewicz did the cover. [1/17-2/7]

MARVEL AGE No. 14, May. In an article about the Fantastic Four, John Byrne hints about plans for the quartet. Byrne did the cover. [1/17-2/7]

MARVEL FANFARE No. 14, April. "Dangerous Visions" is by Roger McKenzie, Rick Leonardi and Joe Rubinstein. The Vision appears with the FF. Plus, a Quicksilver story by Jo Duffy and Alan Weiss. Leonardi and Rubinstein did the cover. [1/17-2/7]

MARVEL FUMETTI BOOK No. 1, May. Hi-jinx in photo form starring and by the Marvel Bullpen staff. [1/17-2/7]

MARVEL TALES STARRING SPIDER-MAN No. 163, May. "Captured By J. Jonah Jameson" is by Stan Lee and Steve Ditko, and originally appeared in **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #25**. Ditko did the cover. [1/17-2/7]

POWER MAN AND IRON FIST No. 105, May. This issue is by Kurt Busiek, Richard Howell and Andy Mushynsky. The all-new Crimebuster makes his appearance. Ed Hannigan did the cover. [1/17-2/7]

ROM No. 54, May. "Blood Trail" is by Bill Mantlo, Sal Buscema, Mel Candido and Kelley Jones. The Dire Wraiths wreak havoc in Atlanta, as Dr. Strange, Nick Fury and SHIELD make appearances. Bill Sienkiewicz did the cover. [1/17-2/7]

THE UNCANNY X-MEN No. 181, May. "Tokyo Story" is by Chris Claremont, John Romita Jr. and Dan Green. Following the Secret War, the X-Men find themselves returned to Earth in Tokyo, where they battle a giant dragon. Sunfire guest-stars. Romita Jr. and Green did the cover [1/17-2/7]

ALPHA FLIGHT No. 10, May. Sasquatch finds himself in a position of having to save his enemy when he discovers his identity, and Northstar stars in a back-up story, both of which are by John Byrne. Byrne did the cover. [1/24-2/14]

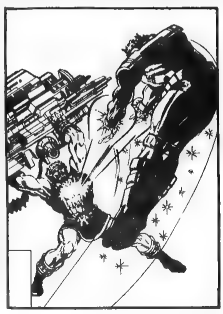
THE DEFENDERS No. 131, May. "My Brilliant Career" is by J. Marc De Matteis, Peter Gillis and Alan Kupperberg. The Walrus attacks the Beast, in something of a tribute to the Beatles. Kupperberg did the cover. [1/24-2/14]

1980, MARVEL COMICS GROUP®. A Division of Cadence Industries Corp. All Rights Reserved.

FANTASTIC FOUR No. 266, May. "Karisma" is by John Byrne, Kerry Gammill and Byrne. Karisma has Ben wrapped around her finger—to what end? Byrne did the cover. [1/24-2/14]

HERCULES No. 3, May. Thanos recovers the original Captain Marvel's power bands, and Hercules must save the life of Apollo as well as his own. Bob Layton did the art, story and cover. [1/24-2/14]

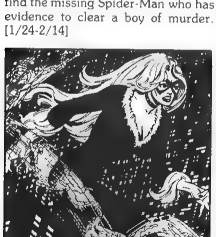
IRON MAN No. 182, May. Rhodey returns from the Secret War with new



1980, MARVEL COMICS GROUP®. A Division of Cadence Industries Corp. All Rights Reserved.

armor and Tony makes the most important decision of his life in a story by Denny O'Neil, Luke McDonnell and Steve Mitchell. McDonnell and Mitchell did the cover. [1/24-2/14]

MARVEL TEAM-UP No. 141, May. This issue is by Bill Mantlo, Ron Frenz and Mike Esposito. The Black Widow and Daredevil make a guest-star team-up appearance, trying to find the missing Spider-Man who has evidence to clear a boy of murder. [1/24-2/14]



© 1983 MARVEL COMICS GROUP, A Division of Cadence Industries Corp. All Rights Reserved.

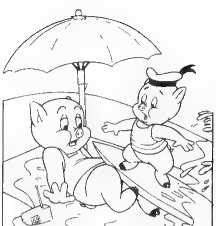
PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN No. 90, May. Al Milgrom did the story and pencils, Jim Mooney the inks. The Black Cat has powers, but what has the Kingpin to do with it? Milgrom did the cover [1/24-2/14]

STAR WARS No. 83, May. "Countdown" is by Linda Grant, Bob McLeod and Tom Palmer. Luke must prevent the explosion of the Empire armageddon machine; Dani and Kiro make return appearnaces. Palmer did the cover. [1/24-2/14]

WHITMAN NEWS

Whitman's new comics are still all of the animated variety, but one new title has been scheduled: **THE SHIRT TALES**, based on the greeting card characters that currently star in an NBC Saturday morning cartoon. **#1** is scheduled to appear in May and **#2** in June. However, a bag featuring three **SHIRT TAILS** issues may be some time in coming, as Whitman is currently only scheduled to publish through June. It is expected that another hiatus period will follow.

New editions of classic adaptations of Disney animated movies include **ALICE IN WONDERLAND** and **PETER PAN** shipping in January, and **BAMBI** and **THE JUNGLE BOOK** in April. (The latter should be interesting, as the original issue was



© 1983 KENNER BOOKS, INC.

a 64-page giant). They are all numbered **#1**, as they no longer carry a date code number to distinguish them from their previous editions. (By my reckoning, this leaves the following due for new printings in the near future: **DUMBO, 101 DALMATIONS, SLEEPING BEAUTY, THE SWORD IN THE STONE, THE ARISTOCATS, ROBIN HOOD** and **THE RESCUERS** of the Disney animated features.)

COMING COMICS

DAFFY DUCK No. 144. Two-thirds new material. [12/1-12/29]

LITTLE LULU No. 268. An all-reprint issue by John Stanley and Irv Tripp. [12/1-12/29].

LOONEY TUNES No. 46. Two-thirds new stories. [12/1-12/29]

WOODY WOODPECKER No. 201. All new material. [12/1-12/29]

BUGS BUNNY No. 244. All new material. [12/22-1/19]

BUGS BUNNY No. 245. All new stories. [12/22-1/19]

THE PINK PANTHER No. 87. All new stories. [12/22-1/19]

POPEYE THE SAILOR No. 170. All reprints by Bud Sagendorf. [12/22-1/19]

ALICE IN WONDERLAND No. 1. A reprint of **FOUR COLOR #331**. [1/5-2/1]

DONALD DUCK No. 243. Reprints. [1/5-2/1]

DONALD DUCK No. 244. Reprints. [1/5-2/1]

PETER PAN No. 1. A reprint of **FOUR COLOR #442.** [1/5-2/1]

HUEY, LOUIE AND DEWEY JUNIOR WOODCHUCKS No. 79. New stories. [1/19-2/17]

UNCLE SCROOGE No. 206. New stories. [1/19-2/17]

UNCLE SCROOGE No. 207. All reprints [1/19-2/17]

WINNIE-THE-POOH No. 32. New stories. [1/19-2/17]

CHARLTON COMING COMICS

BEYOND THE GRAVE No. 14, April. [12/5-1/2]

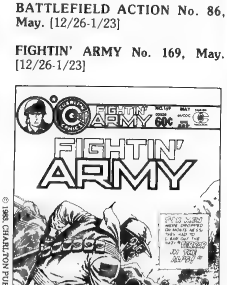
WAR No. 44, April. [12/5-1/2]

FIGHTIN' NAVY No. 130, April. [12/12-1/9]

GHOSTLY TALES No. 166, April. [12/12-1/9]

BATTLEFIELD ACTION No. 86, May. [12/26-1/23]

FIGHTIN' ARMY No. 169, May. [12/26-1/23]



© 1983 CHARLTON PUBLICATIONS, INC.

GHOST MANOR No. 74, May. [1/2-1/30]

GUNFIGHTERS No. 84, May. [1/2-1/30]

FIGHTIN' MARINES No. 174, May. [1/16-2/13]

HAUNTED No. 73, May. [1/16-2/13]

ATTACK No. 46, May. [1/23-2/20]

SCARY TALES No. 44, May. [1/23-2/20]

EPISODE 73 - by Dan Rosa

CAPTAIN KENTUCKY GOES TO ERAN PART V:

MAY 18, 1980

LAST WEEK THE CAPTAIN DEALT FAIRLY & COMPASSIONATELY WITH EX-AYATOLLAH KHOMEINI AND MERCIFULLY LEFT THE OLD BOY OFF EASY.

NOW HE TURNS HIS ATTENTION TO THE FOCAL POINT OF HIS FAR-EAST MISSION: THE RESCUE of the AMERICAN HOSTAGES!

U.S. EMBASSY

ALRIGHT IN THERE! YOU "STUDENTS" OR TERRORISTS OR DANGEROUS NUTBALLS ... I DON'T MUCH CARE WHAT YOU ARE...EITHER YOU RELEASE EVERY ONE OF THOSE INNOCENT DIPLOMATS IMMEDIATELY AND LEAVE THE U.S. EMBASSY GROUNDS...

...OR I'M COMIN' IN AFTER YOU!!!

IF YOU BE TRYING ANYTHING, AMERICAN DEVIL, WE WILL BE BLOWING OFF ALL OF HEADS BEFORE YOU CAN BE KNOWING WHAT IS HAPPEN!

HEY... UH... EINSTEIN.

!!!... JEEPERS... I CAN POSSIBLY SAVE ALL THE HOSTAGES SIMULTANEOUSLY...UNLESS...THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY? AND IT'LL TAKE THE REST OF MY "OCTA-HEXA-GLOP" TO ACCOMPLISH IT?

THIS'LL BE THE MOST TITANIC FEAT OF MY CAREER... BUT, BY GOSH, I'LL DO IT!

WAP!

I'VE CORRECTED A BOO BOO SPOTTED BY READER TOM ESREVEIN E.P. #69-72. I HAD C.K. WEARING THE BOOTS HE RECEIVED LAST DECEMBER IN THIS MAY '80 STORY

C.K.'S PREDECODED SECRET MESSAGE: GOSH ALL FISHHOOKS -- YES, I KNOW THE SEWER EXPLOSIONS ARE IDEAL MATERIAL FOR A C.H. ADVENTURE... BUT I'M STILL MIXED-UP IN THIS ONE? LATER!

CRUNCH!

DEATH TO AMERICA

U.S. EMBASSY

DEATH TO AMERICA

U.S. EMBASSY

DEATH TO AMERICA

RIIIPPP!

THIS EMBASSY IS OFFICIALLY AMERICAN SOIL... AND I'M TAKING IT HOME TO AMERICA! NEVER AGAIN WILL YOUR SOIL SOIL THIS SOIL!

U.S. EMBA

DEATH TO THE SHAH

TO BE CONTINUED

EPISODE 74: by DON ROSA

Captain Kentucky RETURNS FROM IRAN

PART VI

IT'S MAY 18, 1980, AND THERE'S A LARGE CHUNK OF DOWNTOWN TEHRAN SAILING GRACEFULLY EASTWARD OVER THE NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN...

YOU SEE, IN THE IMAGINARY REALITY OF "CAPTAIN KENTUCKY", C.K., DECIDING IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO SEPARATE THE HOSTAGES FROM THE NITWIT TERRORISTS WITHOUT LOSS OF LIFE, HAS OPTED TO SIMPLY BRING THE ENTIRE EMBASSY AND GROUNDS BACK TO AMERICA!

WITHOUT THEIR SCREWBALL AYATOLLAH TO BACK THEM UP, THESE TERRORISTS WILL HAVE TO SURRENDER TO THE AMERICAN AUTHORITIES... AND PUNISHMENT WILL DOUBTLESSLY BE SEVERE! AFTER ALL, THESE SQUIRTS ARE THE CAUSE OF THE ENTIRE CRISIS! KHOMEINI'S GOVERNMENT SIMPLY MADE USE OF THE SITUATION AS BEST THEY COULD FOR FEAR THAT TELLING THE TERRORISTS TO LAWFULLY RELEASE THE HOSTAGES WOULD RESULT IN YET ANOTHER REVOLUTION!

BUT JUSTICE WILL SOON BE SERVED... I SEE THE NORTHWEST COAST OF AMERICA NOW!

YOU THINK YOU KNOW HOW THIS STORY WILL END?!? THE FIRST READER TO CALL ME WITH THE ANSWER WILL WIN A STACK OF EXTRA 194'S "CAPTAIN MARVEL" COMICS FROM MY COLLECTIONS!

BUT MEANWHILE, LITTLE DOES C.K. SUSPECT THAT THE TERRORISTS ARE ABOUT TO ESCAPE!

LOOK, AHMAD! WE ARE FINALLY NOT BEING OVER OCEAN NO LONGER! I AM SEEING LAND BENEATH US!

YES, AHMID... WE MUST ESCAPE IT THIS ROCK BEFORE THE FLYING SATAN CAN BE LANDING WITH US!

U.S. EMBASSY

DEATH TO THE SATAN

AHMOD! IS THE EMBASSY HELICOPTER READY TO TAKE IT OFF? WE MUST FLEE NOW!

YES, AHMED... THE HOSTAGES TIED UP AND WE WILL FAST GO!

U.S. EMBASSY

WHAT'S THIS?! THE TERRORISTS ESCAPING AND C.K. WON'T DISCOVER IT FOR HOURS YET WHEN HE LANDS IN WASHINGTON D.C.! HOW CAN I ALLOW THIS??? AND WHY HAVE I HAD THIS ENTIRE STORY SET IN MAY 1980, RATHER THAN NOV. '79 OR ANY OTHER TIME? ALL THIS WILL BE ANSWERED IN THE CONCLUSION IN NEXT WEEK'S FULL-PAGE 75TH ANNIVERSARY SPECTACULAR!

A BOX ON ANYONE WHO SAYS THIS BORING EPISODE IS JUST AN ATTEMPT TO MAKE THIS STORY STRETCH TO EPISODE #75!!!

HERE ARE 8 GREAT REASONS TO CHOOSE

1. FREE plastic bag for each comic ordered
2. FREE copy of 1984 OVERSTREET PRICE GUIDE with order of just 480 books a year
3. INSTANT CREDIT
4. CREDIT CARD PURCHASES WELCOME
5. LOWEST SHIPPING CHARGES AVAILABLE FOREIGN RATES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST
6. LARGEST SELECTION AVAILABLE from Archie, DC, Eclipse, First, Marvel, Pacific, Whitman, and more
7. FAST, ACCURATE and DEPENDABLE SERVICE
8. WHOLESALE PRICES AVAILABLE with large orders

HERE ARE 480 MORE GREAT REASONS!

MARVEL COMICS
- Alpha-Flight
- Amazing Spiderman
- Avengers
- Bizarre Adventures
- Blo
- Captain America
- Conan
- Crystar
- Daredevil
- Dazzler
- Defenders
- Dr. Strange
- Fantastic Four
- G.I. Joe
- Incredible Hulk
- Indiana Jones
- Iron Man
- Kotar
- King Conan
- Kull the Conqueror
- Marvel & DC Present
- Marvel Age (News!)
- Marvel Fanfare
- Marvel Tales
- Marvel Team-Up
- Micronauts
- Moon Knight
- New Mutants
- Official Handbook of the Marvel Universe
- Peter Parker
- Powerman & Iron Fist
- Rom
- Star Wars
- The Thing
- Thor
- U.S. 1
- What If ?
- X-Men
- Any Limited Series
- Any One-shot
- Any Marvel # !
- Any Marvel # ! (No reprints)
- All Marvel Annuals
- Any "Blaster" reprints
- Selected Marvel Annuals

EPIC COMICS
- Coyote
- Dinosaur
- Any Epic # !

MARVEL MAGAZINES
- Epic Illustrated
- Marvel Graphic Novel
- Marvel Super Special
- Savage Sword

DC COMICS
- Action
- All-Star Squadron
- Amethyst, Princess of Gem World
- Arak
- Arion
- Atom Force
- Batman
- Batman & The Outsiders
- Blackhawk
- Blue Devil
- Camelot 3000
- Captain Carrot
- DC Comics Presents
- Detective
- Flash
- Fury of Firestorm
- G.I. Combat
- Green Lantern
- House of Mystery
- Jonah Hex
- Justice League
- Legion of Superheroes
- New Talent Showcase
- New Teen Titans
- Night Force
- Omega Men
- Ronin (Frank Miller)
- Saga of Swamp Thing
- Sgt. Rock
- Superboy
- Supergirl
- Superman
- Vigilante
- Warlord

DC COMICS
- Wonder Woman
- World's Finest
- Zero Man
- Adventure Digest
- Best of DC Digest
- Any DC # !
- Any DC # ! (No reprints)
- Any DC Maxi-series
- Any DC Mini-series
- All DC Annuals
- Selected DC Annuals
- Any DC Insert Comic
- Any DC One-shot
- Any DC Graphic Novel

FIRST COMICS
- American Flagg
- E-Man
- Mars
- Jon Sable Freelance
- Starslayer
- Warp
- Warp Special
- Any First Comics # !

PACIFIC COMICS
- Alien Worlds
- Benni Wrightson (Master of the Macabre)
- Captain Victory
- Edge of Chaos
- Eric of Meknibone
- Groo, the Wanderer
- Ms. Mystic
- Pacific Presents
- Quest and Other Tales
- Silver Star
- Somerset Holmes
- Twisted Tales
- World of Wood
- Any Pacific One-shot
- Any Pacific # !

RED CIRCLE
- Black Hood
- Blue Ribbon
- Comet
- Fly

RED CIRCLE
- Galaxia (Magazine)
- Hangman
- Jaguar
- Mighty Crusaders
- Shield
- Thunder Bunny
- Any Red Circle # !
- Any Red Circle Mini-series

IMPORTS
- Dr. Who Monthly (Marvel U.K.)
- Cinema (Marvel U.K.)
- Dan Dare (Dragon's Dream)
- Starburst (Marvel U.K.)
- Warrior (Quality)

TITAN BOOKS, LTD.
- A.B.C. Warriors
- Charley's War
- Comic Tales (color)
- Garth
- Jeff Hawke
- Judge Dredd
- Nemesis

SPECIAL EFFECTS MAGAZINES
- American Cinematographer
- American Fantasy
- Cinefantastique
- Cinefex
- Cinemagic
- Fangoria
- Fantastic Films
- Starlog
- Starlog Guidebooks

ARCHIE COMICS
- If #1

WHITMAN COMICS
- If #1

ALTERNATIVE COMICS
- Az (Comico)
- Badger, The (Capital Publ.)

ALTERNATIVE COMICS
- Basically Strange
- Cerebus
- Comico Primer
- D'Arc Tangent
- Domino Chance
- Elfquest
- First Kingdom
- Vortex
- Gates of Eden (Fantaco)
- Grendel (Comico)
- Hall of Fame (John C. Publ.)
- Hembeck (Fantaco)
- Hugo
- Journey (A. Vanaheim)
- Justice Machine (Noble)
- Ken Pierce Reprint Series
- Love & Rockets
- Masterworks Series
- Neil the Horse (A. Vanaheim)
- Nemo (Classic Comics Library)
- Nexus (Capital Publ.)
- Pogo: The Okeefenokee Star
- Sprog (Comico)
- Slaughterman (Comico)
- Southern Knights (formerly, The Crusaders)
- Spirit, (Kitupp)
- Star Fighters
- Star Rider & The Peace Machine
- Steve Canyon (Kitupp)
- Survivors (Spectrum)
- Swords of Cerebus
- Thunder Agents (John C. Publ.)
- Voyages (Nautilus Dreams)
- Whisper (Capital Publ.)

ECLIPSE COMICS
- Aztec Ace
- Destroyer Duck
- DNAgents
- Eclipse
- "Hall of Fame Series"

ECLIPSE COMICS
- John Law (W. Elsner)
- Ms. Tree
- Sabre
- Scorpio Rose
- Any Eclipse # !

AMERICOMICS
- Americomics
- Americomics Special
- Black Diamond
- Bolt & Star Force 6
- Fun Comics
- Sensines of Justice
- Any Americomics # !

EAGLE COMICS
- Judge Dredd (color)

FAN MAGAZINES
- Amazing Heroes
- Bondage (James Bond)
- Comic Book Price Guide Update #3
- Comic Fandom's Forum
- Comic Informer
- Comic News
- Comic Reader
- Comics Collector
- Comics Feature
- Comics Interview
- Comics Journal
- Comics Scene
- Enterprise Incidents
- Fantare
- Fantasy Chronicles Series
- Fantastic Exploits
- Fantasy Book (SF)
- Fantasy Empire
- Fantasy Images
- Golden Age of Comics
- Marvel Comics Index
- Panels
- Prevue
- RBCC
- Rigel (SF)
- Rising Star
- Video Gaming Illustrated
- Comic Book Price Guide #13

1. Indicate the number of books you want for each title. We'll ship them to you each and every month
2. Send us a security deposit of $10.00 which we hold till you cancel service
3. Each month we'll send you your books, when we receive payment for the previous shipment
4. If you want to change your order, we'll do it upon written notification. There is a minimum order of 10 books per month

- **PLAN A:** 10-29 Order Shipped Monthly – exact UPS charges
- **PLAN B:** 30-59 Order Shipped Monthly – W/E PAY shipping
- **PLAN C:** 30-59 Order Shipped Bi-Weekly – ½ exact UPS charges
- **PLAN D:** 30-59 Order Shipped Weekly – exact UPS charges
- **PLAN E:** 60 or more Order Shipped Bi-Weekly–W/E PAY shipping
- **PLAN F:** 60 or more Order Shipped Weekly–½ exact UPS charges

YOU JUST CAN'T DO ANY BETTER!

I want to take advantage of your subscription service. Please send me each month a total of ____ books. Enclosed is my $10.00 deposit. I wish to be on Plan ____ (Indicate A,B,C,D, E, or F). I have indicated the titles I want.

Name

Address

City State Zip

Tel. (W) (H)

Specific titles and #'s wanted if possible

Seppi's Subscription Service

1720 BELMONT AVE. BAY C
KNOXVILLE, TN 37917

MARVEL BOOKS

Completist that I am, I decided sometime ago that I would collect the Marvel Books line, no matter what the subject matter, and have purchased every one that I've been able to track down. Since the line is "numbered" in a manner of speaking, and since that numbering sequence includes gaps, I've become intrigued about what I may have missed.

Thus far, the configurations of the line have been many. Initially, color paperbacks appeared, replaced soon after by black-and-white comic-reprint paperbacks. Then the **MARVEL GRAPHIC NOVEL** line was added, the treasury-size comic was resurrected, and a mass-market album format similar to the graphic novels appeared. I then found several coloring and activity books as well as the Giant Story Coloring Book line formerly published by Parkes Run, and, most recently a **KRULL Storybook** featuring photos and a text by David Kraft, two **G.I. JOE** "Marvel Mighty Storybooks" (about digest size) with illustrated stories, "Operation Disappearance" by B.S. Watson, Ron Fontes, John Romita and Earl Norem, and "The Spy Eye" by Fenson Bligh, Herb Trimpe and Fred Ottenheimer. And two other storybooks in a different size (about the size of the sideways issues of **MARCH OF COMICS**) starring **HEATHCLIFF** "The Fish Bandit" and "The Trickiest Cat in Town," both by Shirley Jay and John Costanza.

I have several clues as to the identities of possible numbers in the "series" **DARK CRYSTAL**, which I recall being cancelled as a paperback book, was probably assigned an ISBN number (19, I'd guess). There is a **SPIDER-MAN 2** paperback, but I've never seen a **SPIDER-MAN 1** published by Marvel Books, which may have appeared as the elusive **Paperback #5**, back when Marvel was numbering them as a separate series, and would have a publication date of January or March, 1982. There are probably some sub-series of four each spotlighting a certain format or property to fill in #25 28 and 54-57, but I'd guess that the earlier books have appeared and I've not yet run across them.

Following is a list of the books I have in my possession, their formats and prices. If anyone can fill in any of the missing numbers, tell me and I'll update the listing.

MARVEL BOOKS
ISBN #0-9604146 series

0-6 **Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back** (color paperback; $2.50)

4-2 **The Incredible Hulk** (pop-up book; $4.98)

8-1 **Star Wars** (color paperback; $2.50)

9-X **The Incredible Hulk** (color paperback; $2.50)
ISBN #0-939766 series

00-0 **Star Trek** (color paperback; $2.50)

01-9 **The X-Men** (paperback; $1.75)

02-7 **Fantastic Four** (paperback; $1.75)

05-1 **The Incredible Hulk "Circus of Crime"** (pop-up book; $2.95)

06-X **The Incredible Hulk "Trapped"** (pop-up book, $2.95)

07-8 **Conan the Barbarian** (paperback; $1.75)

08 6 **Captain America** (paperback; $1 75)

09-4 **The Avengers** (paperback; $1.75)

10-8 **Blade Runner** (paperback, $1.75)

11-6 **The Death of Captain Marvel (Marvel Graphic Novel #1**; $5 95)

12-4 **Elric: The Screaming City (MGN #2)** $5 95)

13-2 **Spider-Man 2** (paperback; $1 75)

14-0 **Star Wars 2** (paperback, $1.75)

15-9 **Dreadstar (MGN #3**, $4.95)

16-7 **Annie Treasury Edition** (tabloid, $1 50)

17-5 **Smurfs** (tabloid treasury; $1.50)

18-3 **Daredevil** (paperback; 1.75)

18-3 **Daredevil** (paperback; $1.75)

20 5 **The New Mutants (MGN #4**; 4 95)

21-3 **Star Slammers (MGN #6**; $5.95)

22-1 **X-Men: God Loves, Man Kills (MGN #6**, $5 95)

23-X **The Dark Crystal** (album, $2 95)

24 8 **Star Wars: The Return of the Jedi** (album, $2 95)

29-9 **Heathcliff "At the Circus"** (coloring book; $ 99)

30-2 **Heathcliff "The Pirate"** (coloring book, $ 99)

31-0 **Heathcliff "Cat at the Show"** (coloring activity book; $ 99)

32-9 **Heathcliff "Our Hero"** (coloring activity book; $ 99)

33-7 **The Saga of Crystar, Crystal Warrior** (coloring book, $.99)

34-5 **The Saga of Crystar "The Tournament"** (coloring book; $ 99)

35-3 **The Saga of Crystar "The Menace of the Magma Men"** Super Activity Book; $.99)

36 1 **The Saga of Crystar "Chaos on Crystallum"** (Super Activity Book; $ 99)

37-X **The Amazing Spider-Man "Unmasked"** (coloring book; $ 99)

38 8 **Fantastic Four vs. the Frightful Four** (coloring book; $.99)

39-6 **The Uncanny X-Men** (Super Activity Book; $.99)

40-X **Marvel Super Heroes** (Super Activity Book; $.99)

41-8 **The Amazing Spider-Man "The Arms of Doctor Octopus"** (Super-size Coloring Book; $2 49)

44-2 **Sugar and Spice in Niceland** (Super-size Coloring Book; $2 49)

45-0 **A Day With Heathcliff** (Super-size Coloring Book, $2.49)

46-9 **G.I. Joe "Operation Decoy"** (Super-size Coloring Book; $2 49)

47-7 **The Family Circus "At the Zoo"** (Super-size Coloring Book; $2.49)

48-5 **G.I. Joe "The Trojan Gambit"** (album, $2.95)

49-3 **Krull** (storybook, $3.95)

50-7 **G.I. Joe "Operation Disappearance"** (Mighty Marvel Storybook; $1.50)

51-5 **G.I. Joe "The Spy Eye"** (Mighty Marvel Storybook; $1 50)

52 3 **Heathcliff "The Fish Bandit"** (Big Looker Storybook; $1.50)

53 1 **Heathcliff "The Trickiest Cat in Town"** (Big Looker Storybook; $1.50)

58-2 **Star Wars: Return of the Jedi** (color paperback; $2.50)

59-0 **Killraven, Warrior of the Worlds (MGN #7**; $5.95)

60 4 **Mighty Marvel Team-Up Thrillers** (trade paperback; $5.98)

75 2 **Frankenstein** (trade paperback illustrated novel; $9.95)

76-0 **The Marvel Comics Try-Out Book** (tabloid-size; $12.95)

77-9 **Super Boxers (MGN #8**; $5.95)

81-7 **The Futurians (MGN #9**; $6 95)

ET AL

Fantagraphic Books, in connection with its **NEMO** magazine dealing with vintage comic strips, will be issuing a deluxe collector's series which will reprint the entirety of Elzie Segar's **POPEYE**, ten years of daily and Sunday comics. The square-bound books will run 148 pages and will measure 11 x 15". There will be eight volumes, with five to feature daily strips and three Sundays. The price per volume is $11 95, and is, of course, authorized by King Features. Introductions by Rick Marschall, Bill Blackbeard and others will put the material in perspective. The first volume of the series, which is planned as a quarterly publication, will be out in the spring of this year.

A company called Mandolin Publications (Route 2, Box 708, San Antonio, Texas) has announced a line of full-color comics, the first of which will be a twelve-issue maxi-series entitled **THRILLING PULP COMICS**, "Rhapsody in Blu, the Legend of the

Widowmaker" is written and drawn by Michael Murray and features Azur Blu, a space pirate and her band, who battle a galactic mega-corporation called Cosvesco to avenge the injustices and deaths suffered by her friends. The back-up is titled "Once Upon a Time" and is an adventure romance featuring elves in a land called Eldon. It is written by Harlequin Romance novelist Linda Turner and drawn by Debra Adams. Further titles planned in this line are called **THRILLING PULP COMICS, NIGHT TERRORS,** and **EDEN, THE TENTH PLANET.** A romance comic written by Linda Turner is also in the works. The books will be printed on the equivalent of Baxter paper. Sallie Jenkins is president and publisher, Murray is Managing Editor.

COMICS HISTORY

THE GENESIS OF THE SUB-MARINER
By Lou Mougin

Last time we took a look back at the first six issues of **MARVEL MYSTERY COMICS**, circa 1939-40, to limn the earliest adventures of Bill Everett's most famous creation, the Sub-Mariner. We traced the earliest account of his origin through the first encounters with the surface world, his meeting with Betty Dean, his first fight against the Nazis, his trial for murder and execution (which, luckily, failed to take) and his decision to return to war against America. This installment will continue its look back at the early Sub-Mariner strips through his first encounter with the Human Torch and the serial which was to follow directly after.

Before we get into the installment proper, thanks are due to Randall Scott and the crew down at the Michigan State University Library for loaning me copies of **MARVEL MYSTERY** for research purposes. Most of these are there through the efforts of Jerry Bails, thus, thanks is also due to Fandom's Father, who directly aids and abets this series.

On with the show.

* * *

"Namor, you have been cheated and mistreated by the treacherous Americans!" pronounces Tha-Korr on his Atlantean throne. "What do you intend to do about it?"

"Sir, I shall return to New York City and destroy the entire continent, using the metropolis as my central base!"

Namor wasn't kidding, either. In the next couple of episodes, he was to make his previous rampages look like workouts at Vic Tanny's gym, as he tore up New York City from top to bottom wiuth ineffectual resistance. That is, until the adventure of the Human Torch. But that was still a month in the future. Namor eschewed a fleet of sub-mariners to aid him in his operations; instead, he chose to wreck the surface world single-handedly. He nearly did it, too

One page later, a lone aerosub parked itself below the waters of New York Harbor and Namor emerged, intent on his one-man invasion. This issue and the next were to be grand celebrations of destruction which the more civilized Sub-Mariner of the sixties would be hard-put to match. Subby surfaces near the Statue of Liberty, sneering, "Huh! They'll not know what liberty means when I'm through with them. I'll conquer this nation and enslave all its people. I'll be emperor of America, and make these people pay for what they have done to me!" When a guard on Bedloe's Island tries to stop him, Namor casually smashes his jaw, flies to the torch of the statue, and descends into the structure to smash open a window and toss out tourists without a second glance. A guard manages to get to a police phone and summons a harbor launch, which Namor avoids easily.

On his way into the city, the Sub-Mariner takes time out to tear the rudder off a ferryboat, paralyze its engines, and send it right into the prow of a giant liner, smashing it to splinters and probably drowning most of the passengers. "Maybe they'll soon learn to respect me!" sneers the Atlantean terrorist, and then, a few minutes later, standing on a dock, he muses, "Perhaps the mayor will listen to reason!" Not bloody likely. After reasoning rather roughly with a squad of cops, he leaps into the air and breaks into Fiorello La Guardia's office

"Get out of here, you crook! You bum!" sputters the mayor.

Namor snaps back, "I could break you in half if I wanted, but you'll be more useful to me alive!"

At that, the mayor wades in, both fists flying, despite the remonstrations of his assistant, who warns, "Hey—stop! He'll kill you!" Sub-Mariner, feeling more merciful than usual today, merely decks the mayor with one punch and snaps, "I'm going to rule this country before I'm through, and neither you nor the National Guard nor your army can do a thing about it!" La Guardia decides to put that to the test and picks up the phone to call the governor. Namor leaps through the window and promptly begins his rampage anew.

The first object of his endeavors proves to be an elevated train, whose destruction is pictured a couple of issues later on the cover of **MARVEL MYSTERY #9**, but with the Human Torch intervening. A whole section of track comes down, and with it, a passing train, mounting up the body count. Namor proceeds to the top of the Empire State Building, where he rips down a spire and tosses it to the streets below. In the Golden Age, with World War II already raging in Europe, it wasn't impressive enough (as in the sixties) to merely threaten lives; a villain had to take them.

The NYPD hasn't been idle during all this. Betty Dean is called in again for Sub-Mariner duty, and manages to flag him down as he passes overhead. "The Sub-Mariner's attraction for Betty proves too strong to resist," as a caption allows. As Namor lands on the dock before her, Betty pleads, "Oh—Namor! Why must you do this?"

"Hah! You should ask that!" snaps the Sub-Mariner, probably referring to his recent botched execution

"Please—please go home. Let us live in peace!" she pleads, and adds the magic words, "I'm afraid—for you, Namor!" When he expresses disbelief, she explains, "The Human Torch is now a member of our police force!"

"I've heard of him. So you think that little flame of his can hurt me? Hah! Tell your people I'm not through—and as for the Torch, let him come!"

This was the first inkling of the Torch/Sub-Mariner feud that was to continue, off and on, through the forties, and the first crossover in Marvel history. Carl Burgos and Bill Everett, being friends since they conceived their fire/water opposing characters in 1939, had decided to let them go head-to-head in a full-scale war. And it must be admitted that the two of them (and **Torch** writer John Compton) knew how to build up suspense. Two more months passed before the conflict came to a head, and it took another issue for the resolution. Timely milked the Torch/Subby battle as dry as they possibly could.

The June, 1940 issue of **MARVEL MYSTERY** put the Sub-Mariner tale at the front of the book for the first and only time in its run. The story, titled "The Human Torch and the Sub-Mariner Meet," began with head-shots of Namor and the Torch and took up the storyline with Namor back at the Statue of Liberty, musing, "So—they're going to send the Torch after me! Let him come! He'll soon learn to respect me!"

Despite his sounding like a 1940s Rodney Dangerfield, Sub-Mariner

OH NO! NOT ANOTHER TEAM BOOK!

Ah, but what a team! In a single night, powers beyond their dreams (well, their expectations, anyway) appear at random in thousands of people throughout the world. Where did they get them? What will they do with them? These folks are just a few of the lucky winners you'll meet, and you'll be one yourself besides, if you pick up ***POWER PLAYS*** #1, available soon from your local comics shop, or distributor (I hope) or by mail for $1.50 plus 50¢ postage from:

EXTRAVA-GANDT ENTERPRISES, 403 S. SEE-GWUN AVE., MT. PROSPECT, ILL. 60056

gets to work again immediately. He steals a depth-charge from a sub-chaser in the Brooklyn Navy Yard and uses it to blow a hole in the roof of the Hudson Tunnel, letting in a deluge of water to drown occupants of autos caught therein. After that, he takes to the air, to have another pitched battle with a pursuing biplane and send it down in flames. His next stop is the Bronx Zoo, where he rips open the lion cages. As the great cats terrorize the crowd, Namor rips loose an iron bar and uses it to attack the keepers, ensuring that the lions will remain at large. After punching out a lion that attacks him, the Sub-Mariner heads for the snake house, smashes the heavy glass cases open, and releases such delightful animals as king cobras among the sightseers, at least four of whom are depicted trapped. This, mind you, was a character who would shortly become a super-hero in his own right, with mass murder and destruction hardly being held against him.

Namor proceeds to free a killer elephant ("Hate gleams in the beast's small eyes as Namor grips the bars") and set a whole herd free on the park grounds. However, this gives us the chance to see the Sub-Mariner in a favorable light—for once. Even Bill Everett seemed to feel that Subby had to perform a heroic deed to offset all the rampant destruction going on, and, when a nurse flees and leaves a baby carriage right in the path of the elephants, Namor fights off the beasties and takes the child to a nearby hospital. "He couldn't be as bad as they say," opines a nurse there. "Bah! Stupid idiots!" rasps Namor. "You'll see!"

For a finale, the Atlantean prince decides to lay waste to the George Washington Bridge by ripping down an upright. More motorists flee in terror. But, on the next page, "a blazing figure sails through the air and lands on the bridge." Namor halts in surprise. "The Human Torch!" he mutters. For the first time in comics, Timely's greatest hero and anti-hero are at each other's throats.

In the previous issue, the Torch had joined up with the New York police force as "Jim Hamond," revealed his secret identity, and at the end of the tale was told by Betty Dean that the Sub-Mariner was forcing his own urban renewal plan on New York. The Torch got to work in the second story in **MARVEL MYSTERY #9**, melting and rewelding the pillars of the destroyed "el," straightening out the train wheels, cutting through the metal of the Empire State Building's fallen mooring mast to save pedestrians trapped underneath, rounding up the animals at the George Washington Bridge. In the Torch's own story, the Sub-Mariner snapped, "Well, well! At last we meet, eh, Fire-bug?"

The fight runs for two pages in Sub-Mariner's story and one page in the Torch's. Essentially, Namor tosses a girder at the Torch, which gets turned into molten metal. Namor then lunges for his foe, to be met head-on by a sheet of flame. The Sub-Mariner's internal sprinkler system takes care of the fire for a few seconds, "but the heat's too great, even for him." He dives off the bridge as the man of fire yells, "Come back, water rat, and fight it out!" Namor's head pops up above the waves. "I can't follow you there, but you'll have to come up sometime, and when you do—" threatens the Torch. "I'll be back!" promises Subby.

The end of the Torch's story is followed by a banner proclaiming, "FIRE VS. WATER! A fight to the Finish!" And, as most of us know by now, that was an ad for the very next issue of **MARVEL MYSTERY**, where two comics heroes went **mano a mano** for the first time in history. Timely had been building up to this one for months, dragging it out for sales purposes as long as possible, but the payoff was to be worth all the hype and then some. Bill Everett, Carl Burgos and **Torch** writer John Compton combined forces for this one, with Everett drawing Subby and Burgos drawing the fiery fury through the entire 22-page tale. This fight, reprinted sketchily in **FANTASY MASTERPIECES #8**, catches the best of the early Timely spirit and proved a tough act to beat, even with a team-up and three rematches to come.

At any rate, the Sub-Mariner continued directly from his battle with the Torch to his aerial sub, where he extracted a high-pressure air tank which he used to blow out the Torch's flame. This done, he dragged his opponent underwater (this early, everybody concerned seemed to remember that the Torch was an android, and couldn't drown) and tried to be off, when a mishap with the same air tank blew a huge bubble around the Torch. This seemed unlikely, even for the neo-science of comics at the time. However, the bubble resists Namor's best efforts to crush it, if you can believe that, and buoys the Torch to the surface, where he beats a hasty retreat to the police commissioner's office.

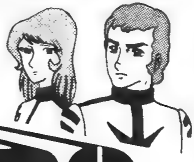
There was barely time to gasp for breath between rounds in this one. The Torch managed to spend all of four panels at the station house, where Betty Dean harangued him to let her intervene, before an antediluvian television set with Namor's visage on its screen barked, "This is my final warning! Get off my trail, Torch, or take the consequences!" This being many years before Bob Barker, the Torch confronted Namor at Radio City, where he had forced a TV crew to make him an instant daytime star. The chase led Namor to the city reservoir, where the Torch confined him with a blanket of flame. Unfortunately for Namor, the water was chlorinated, in the manner of a city swimming pool, and began to choke to death. An Army plane saved the day by bombing the reservoir, blowing Sub-Mariner out of the water with an explosion. The Torch bested his groggy foe on land, but Sub-Mariner pulled his usual trick of grabbing a plane's landing gear to pull him out of trouble. "Blazes!" grumbled the Torch. "That guy's got more lives than seven cats!"

After a high-gear battle in the air in which the Torch shot the plane down with fireballs and cut it in two with his flaming body, both principals in the conflict ended up at the Torpey Chemical Works. (This establishment, incidentally, was named for Frank Torpey, the salesman for Funnies, Inc. who had sold Martin Goodman on publishing Timely Comics.) The fight there climaxed with the famous ending in which the Torch is caught under a plastic translite case, snuffing his flame. However, when Namor tried to lift the case and finish the Torch, he burst into blazing life again. Subby was faced with the initial dilemma of Professor Horton. "What am I going to do with you, you confounded fire-bug?" he puzzled, hand on head.

Timely Comics invited the reader to ponder that one, himself, and requested readers to send in their ideas for an end to the Sub-Mariner/Human Torch battle, in an announcement which took up the bottom half of page 22. They were out to drag the conflict on to its last embers, and they did so by publishing the last page in **MARVEL MYSTERY #10**. Betty Dean arrived on the scene, persuaded Namor to listen to reason, and made both of the heroes (admittedly, Namor was a pretty unlikely candidate for that title at that point) draw up a truce with the Sub-Mariner promising to leave New York alone. With that, Namor freed his erstwhile enemy. The Torch, a forgiving sort, put an arm about Namor's shoulders and saw him to the door. "So long, Namor!" he called, with the whole plant a shambles from a nitoglycerin explosion and fire damage. "You were a tough customer!"

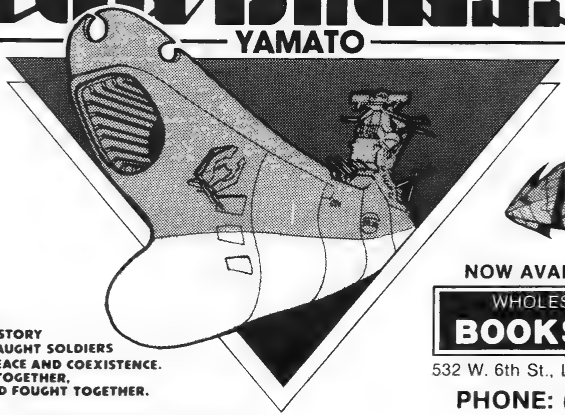
For his own part, Namor growled

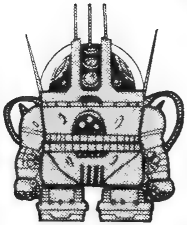
W.C.C. ANIME COMICS

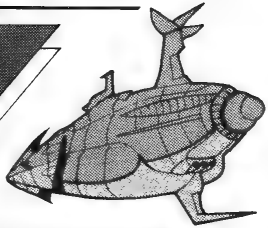


STAR BLAZERS

YAMATO







THIS IS A STORY
OF YOUNG ASTRONAUGHT SOLDIERS
STRUGGLING FOR LOVE, PEACE AND COEXISTENCE.
THEY LIVED TOGETHER,
LAUGHED TOGETHER AND FOUGHT TOGETHER.

NOW AVAILABLE ONLY AT

WHOLESALE & RETAIL

BOOKS NIPPAN

532 W. 6th St., Los Angeles, CA 90014

PHONE: (213) 687-7401

"That dirty hunk of fire ought to be extinguished once and for all! If it weren't for Betty, I'd do it! Confound it, why do I always obey her wishes?" With that, he plunged into the bay once again, boarded his aerial sub and returned to Atlantis. The Emperor called him on the carpet: "Namor, you have disappointed your people! For punishment you shall be suspended indefinitely from all active service!" The Great Atlantean Hope stalked away from the throne room, head low, while Bill Everett informed us that Namor left "in disgrace... alone and friendless."

In a trice, two new characters made their debut...two characters who would share the spotlight with Namor for eight more issues in the Sub-Mariner epic. The scene shifted to a "modern camp on the Northern coast of Maine," where we met Luther Robinson, the archetypical rich playboy of the period, reading the news of Sub-Mariner's departure. Out of pure adventurism, patriotism or cussedness (we never really get a reason), Luther decides to outfit a yacht with a crew of "the toughest cold-weather seamen you can recruit," and bring the Sub-Mariner to justice or a briny grave. Thoughtfully, he brought along his girl friend, Lynne Harris, who proved at least as capable as Betty Dean. In between, we got several nice shots of the ships Bill Everett loved to draw so well, and the entire company, Luther, Lynne and their scruffy crew, "steamed out to sea bristling with anti-aircraft machine guns and light cannon." They managed to locate some suspicious-looking ice fields, and put down anchor.

Namor and Dorma, out swimming, got lured to the surface by the glare of powerful searchlights. Once there, they were shelled by the crew of the **Colleen**. "Great Garfish!" snapped Sub-Mariner. "I was afraid of that! They're after me!!! Come on, we'll fix 'em!" With that, he and his scowling-over-her-shoulder cousin took to their heels. "Half an hour later ..the Emperor orders out the entire Navy -the Sub-Mariner leads them to the scene of his escapade—"

The aerial subs broke out, like metal teardrops with wings and pontoons, and took to the skies. They lost no time in schpritzing the deck crew with a steam gun, giving them a particularly agonizing death. In response, a seaplane streamed up from the deck and blitzes two Atlantean craft. At the same time, the Sub-Mariner himself clambers aboard unseen, clouts a guard, comes upon Robinson and Harris, and grabs the girl just after she shouts, "We'll knock this Sub-Mariner for a loop in no time at all!" Luther, unable to fire for fear of hitting his lady, sees her dragged below the waves. Given that the water was probably cold enough to freeze a fish, Lynne must be admitted to be one gutsy lady

"You see?" snaps Namor as he climbs aboard his underwater subcraft "Your boy-friend wouldn't even bother to save you! Nice people, you Americans!" Luther, topside, boards a "small, powerful, two-man submarine, cradled on a trolley" in the ship's hold evidently Mr. Robinson is some relation to Oliver Warbucks, with this equipment—and takes after Sub Mariner's craft. "I hate to do this—might kill Lynne—but I've just got to take the chance—Let 'er go, Stevens!"

With that, he torpedoes the sub

Luther Robinson, unbelievably enough, exits his craft through the escape hatch wearing nothing but breathing gear and a sailor's suit Lynne has been "catapulted through the water," but, despite suffering an explosion, being cast asea without an aqualung, and being subject to freezing temperatures, holds up rather well. Our hero locates her in time, breaks surface with her, carries her to the yacht, and has time to snap, "That dirty water-rat ought to be very dead at this point—I hope!" Considering the fact that Robinson had never met Namor before launching an attck on him, his single-mindedness seems almost touching.

Namor, somewhat the worse for wear, is found and trundled home by two patrolling Atlanteans. In the last two panels of the strip, Luther declares, "I'll have to make sure that devil's dead before we leave!", while Namor replies, "So they mean business, eh? Well, **so do I**! They'll never leave this country alive!"

The story thus recounted has been reprinted in **INVADERS #21** It continued in the unreprinfed **MARVEL MYSTERY #11**, which commenced with Luther Robinson gathering a rowboat full of fighting men ("Men, I'm going to that iceberg to get the Sub-Mariner dead or alive!") and setting out for the iceberg home of the Atlanteans. They were met by a party of sub-sea warriors, one of whom shouted, "Hola! Look! The white dogs have come ashore! AFTER THEM!!! **KILL!!!**" Despite the noble sentiments so common to children's literature, the Atlantean version of Sgt. Fury did no more than unleash a straight uppercut to a hapless crewman's jaw. They promptly beat the surfacers' socks off

All the Americans save Luther and his aide Mickey were killed in the fight, with Robinson being saved just as one Atlantean pointed a gun at his temple. They get marched into the iceberg, through "the entrance to a magnificently sculptured hall of ice—the Emperor's assembly—" Tha Korr himself proves no less cordial with his captives. "So! **You** are the stupid white men who are trying to kill us off! Well, my fine idiots, you see just how far you can get! Guards, fetch Namor!"

Namor, for his part, on recognizing Luther, has to be held back by two guards. "YOU DIRTY SWINE, I'LL—!" Breaking free, he unleashes a roundhouse right to Robinson's jaw, yelling "I'LL BREAK YOUR SKULL, YOU—YOU INTERLOPER!" Actually, it seems something of a relief from the Shakespearean utterances of the 1960s Sub Mariner would break into when something got **him** riled Namor is pulled off by three guards, while Tha-Korr proceeds to question Luther, with the Sub-Mariner as a veiled threat.

Namor, frustrated, pays a visit to his cousin Dorma the next morning, asking for help: "The Emperor won't let me have a free hand, so I've got to destroy these Americans without his knowing it! I don't know just how I'll go about it—I sort of hoped you'd be able to help me—got any ideas?" It's nice to know that you can turn to family in times of a problem like this. Dorma offers her suggestion: "Robinson's been captured, and nine of his landing crew were killed—that still leaves a couple of dozen men and a girl on the yacht—Why not sneak aboard and blow it up with one of their own depth bombs?" **"Good idea, Dorma!"** cries Namor, springing from his seat in joy. "Come along, you can give me a hand!"

The twosome make their way onto the yacht unseen—this being Namor's second time to do this, you'd think security might have been stepped up. Dorma proves a little merciful, or perhaps just a bit sexist: "Namor, there's no sense in killing the girl, too - Why don't we just take her back to the castle? Then, if the Emperor still wants them all done away with, she can at least die with her sweetheart Robinson—" The Sub-Mariner agrees. Dorma makes her way into Lynne's cabin with Namor, and having overpowered her, plunges them both back into the sea. (Altogether, Lynne was nearly drowned in Arctic water enough to give her quadruple pneumonia five times over. Bill Everett finally acknowledges this by having Dorma mutter, "Good grief! This girl's nearly frozen to death! I'll have to get the doctor for her!" A catfish-mustached physician reported that "She'll be all right in a few hours, Princess!" and that was that)

Meanwhile, Namor was at it again He wrenched the seaplane off

its track on the yacht's deck by main strength and got sub-machinegunned in the back, to no avail. "So! Those devils want to play tag with machine-guns, eh?" He climbed into the cockpit and raked the deck with bullets, knocking off a few more of the crew. Then, after hiding the seaplane in a cove, he returned to the Coleen, activated a depth bomb, and blew the entire ship and all aboard to Davy Jones' Locker. (This is the same guy whom Roy Thomas would have us believe that Franklin Roosevelt made a special agent of the American War Department, in **THE INVADERS**. But, then again, they needed the manpower.)

By the time of Namor's return, Lynne had recovered and Robinson and Mickey began their escape by digging through the ice walls of their cell with a pocket knife and a watch-case cover. The walls proved somewhat less resistant that Alcatraz's. Both men broke loose, located Lynne, freed her, found the plane, and took off. Sub-Mariner saw them off, smiling. "Good! Just as I planned it! Good luck, Americans! I didn't want to torture the girl, and the Emperor surely would have had them all killed after he got the information he wanted—They'll not molest us again...They've had a taste of what the Sub-Mariner **can** do!!!"

As we noted before, he wasn't **all** bad.

The next story, in **MM #12**, commenced with Namor's mother reading her little boy the riot act for letting Lynne Harris escape. Namor protested that he'd done the right thing: "She would have made a good wife, yes—but you seem to forget that she is an American, and a thoroughbred, while only three-quarters of **my** blood is that of the white man. Also you forget that the Americans are our enemies!"

This conversation is interrupted by a guard who reports that Luther Robinson's plane has been forced down some distance away. Fen pushes Namor into deciding to lead an attack party and capturing Lynne Harris, and Namor, clad in military uniform, leads a pack of aerial subs to the downed plane. The craft proves empty. A blanket and a handkerchief are found on an ice floe, leading Namor to conclude the worst.

However, a German submarine is sighted on the return trip, and the action sequence begins. Namor leaps from his craft, pushes the sub single-handedly to the surface, and helps the soldiers (sailors?) break inside and steam-gun the villains down. After the sub screw is brought under control, Namor takes Lynne, leaves Luther and the Germans, and takes to the air anew. But, seeing as how there's still six pages to go in the story, we're not about to get off that easily.

A British battleship appears on the horizon and gets damaged by the U-Boat's torpedo. Mistaking the Atlantean aero-subs for the Nazi's escort, the destroyer begins firing on them. Namor, for his part, snaps "They can't do that to the Sub-Mariner!" and leaps to the attack. The Atlanteans lose one ship, but the British vessel goes down, breaking out lifeboats, with a rescue-cruiser on the way.

"Fools and their stupid wars!" mutters Namor to Lynne and his lieutenant, Folma. "What a pity that all these men have to suffer and die because of the greed of dictatorial rulers—but it was ever so! There will always be war, I suppose!"

Lynne, not about to let him go unchallenged, snaps back, "Yes—you're a fine one to talk! What about all the men on Luther's yacht you killed? And what about Luther? You've killed him, too—at least you're responsible for his death! You could have brought him with me!"

"Be quiet, little fool! If he hadn't been so stupid as to pursue me from America, he'd be alive and well this minute. His death is no one's fault but his own!"

Shortly after that, Namor confides to the lady that she is to be his wife, and informs her that she is to be surgically altered so that she can endure extremes of cold and heat and can breathe underwater. "You will be, in fact, a **human** sub-mariner, the first in the world!" Folma, "a doctor in his own right," gives Lynne a treatment to make her resistant to cold for a few hours. The reluctant lady, feeling as though she'd been etherized, is taken below the choppy waters and introduced to Fen and Dorma, then subjected to an operation and frozen in a block of ice. (This last is supposed to ensure her invulnerability to temperature extremes, in case you're wondering.)

"**But wait!**" a caption reads "The door suddenly bursts open—It is **Luther**!"

The heroic surface-guy tosses a grenade, blowing up the surgeons, kayoing Namor and splitting open the ice-block containing Lynne. Luther, hurrying outside to a waiting launch, raps, "Dirty snakes! Thought they'd done away with me, but they didn't figure I'd escape from the submarine and be picked up by the rescue cruiser! Now to get back to the long-boat—" In a moment's time, the twosome is safely on board the British ship and steaming over the horizon. Back at the ranch, Namor revives groggily, his prey once again beyond him. At least, for the moment...

NEXT: The Sub-Mariner goes to war!!

COMIC BOOK HALL OF FAME

By Don Rosa

[Since its last appearance here, Don has announced its discontinuance in these pages in favor of its appearing in THE COMICS BUYER'S GUIDE. Since then, Don has decided that he'd rather it appear here instead, as space limitations in CBG have caused lengthy delays in publication there. Don reminds all of you with nominations of favorite issues—not entire series—to try to limit yourselves in total number and to try to be succinct; where you bought the comic and which of your pets ultimately destroyed it may be interesting to you, but it's not really what this department is all about. MT]

DANIEL BARER—Walla Walla, WA.

My nominations for the best comics of all time? Hmmm...I've always considered the best stories I've read the ones which make me forget to study the art, consider the validity of the dialogue, or even remember that I'm reading a comic book; I've been propelled into the world of the story, and the play's the thing. Taking that into consideration, here are my nominations:

AVENGERS #160, "Beware the Ant-Man!" and **AVENGERS #161**, "The Bride of Ultron." A tense, dramatic script by Jim Shooter (back when he could write) meshed perfectly with slick, action-packed art by George Perez and Pablo Marcos to create this exciting two-part story. A real nail-biter.

FANTASTIC FOUR ANNUAL #3, "Bedlam at the Baxter Building." An "all-out action issue" to end 'em all, as Stan Lee and Jack Kirby threw the entire Marvel Universe (or at least as much of it that had been formed by 1965) together for a grand melee that gets more ridiculous by the page. I dare anyone to take the "standard Marvel fight-scene" seriously after reading this story.

ELFQUEST #13 "Secret of the Wolfriders." If I could, I'd nominate this entire series, but this one issue stands out. Although part of a continued story, the events in the issue form a self-contained build-up, climax and denouement, while maintaining a steady momentum that

refuses to let the reader go. For pacing, it's hard to beat the Pinis.

HULK #17 "Nights Born Ten Years Gone," **HULK #18** "Shadows in the Heart of the City," **HULK #20** "A Long Way to Dawn." It's too bad that Doug Moench and Bill Sienkiewicz never achieved anything like this in the monthly **MOON KNIGHT** comic. Aided by Klaus Janson's dramatic inks and Steve Oliff's stunning color, Moench and Sienkiewicz weave a nerve-racking tale which combines a stunning chase through New York at Midnight with a psychological examination of both the villain, a mad axe killer, and the hero, his brother. If only Moench could write **BATMAN** like this..

STRANGE TALES #141 "Let There Be Victory." The Lee-Ditko **Doctor Strange** serial was a classic exercise in the theme of taking the hero through Hell, then allowing him to achieve paradise For eleven issues, we watch Dormammu and Baron Mordo dump on Strange; when he finally triumphs against all odds, every reader must have been cheering. Great for the spiritual uplift on a down day.

MARK BERNSTEIN—Ann Arbor, MI.

A random thought: How about a category for classic **scenes** in comic books? After all, there are books out there (**SPIDER-MAN #33** being a prime example) where what people really remember is one beautiful sequence. Here are a few nominations:

GREEN LANTERN #89, last page—GL destroying a jet for no reason besides anger and frustration, and dismissing it with a bitter "send me a bill."

CAPTAIN AMERICA #? (#180-something, I think). Cap goes out on his first night as "Nomad" and blows it by tripping over his own cape

DEFENDERS #? by Gerber. The Hulk charging out of the woods at a group of terrified hunters, bellowing "Men killed Bambi's mother!"

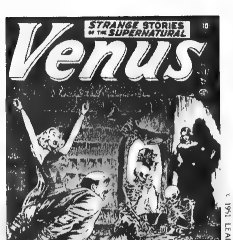
MAN-THING #16 or **17**. The final book-burning scene with that chilling caption, "Whatever knows fear, burns!"

WARLOCK #11 and **AVENGERS ANNUAL #?**. Warlock killing himself, as seen from both viewpoints.

CEREBUS #10 with Red Sophia trying to seduce Cerebus with the final line something like "They'd probably heal if you stopped wearing the chain-mail bra."

RAY STORCH—Oakland, CA.

I like your idea of a comic-book hall of fame...here are my nominations:



DONALD DUCK FOUR COLOR #408, "The Golden Helmet " This is the Barks story which most affected me as a child. Kids now don't have the same "pop culture" support for archaeology as an exciting chase into the past.

[Don Rosa speaking: So far I've avoided listing MY own nominations for the greatest funny books of all time...I'm not sure why I avoid it, but I think I'll get around to it eventually. Perhaps I feel as though, since I write this "Hall of Fame" as well as "The Information Center" and "Information, Please" columns all these years, some readers might think my nominations are perhaps "better" than someone else's...which is, of course, nonsense. But I don't wish to sway readers with my nominations just yet.

But I can't resist sticking my 2 cents in occasionally! If I did list my favorite ten comics of all time, "Donald Duck and the Golden Helmet" would be in that number. In fact, during the purge of our childhood possessions we all go through in adolescence, there were three items I couldn't bear to part with: my "Golden Helmet" FOUR COLOR #408, my UNCLE SCROOGE #1/FOUR COLOR #386, and my complete set of MARS ATTACKS gum cards! "The Golden Helmet" is, in this major Barks devotee's opinion, one of his most ingenious tales, and one that is never far from my thoughts as I write/draw my PERTWILLABY PAPERS adventures! And your point is well taken concerning the love for "chases into the past," be it Scrooge's search for King Solomon's mines or Indiana Jones' search for the lost ark. To make this long story short, in other words, I SECOND YOUR NOMINATION. Now, back to Ray:]

SILVER SURFER #1—a sad and haunting story.

SCRIBBLY #1—an unsung boy cartoonist hero.

THUN'DA #1—cover to cover, the best comic ever from the illustrator school of cartooning.

VENUS #17—Everett's finest.

COMIC CAVALCADE #54—This book gives you three Sheldon Mayer funny-animal stories, a **Fox and Crow** and a taste of everything DC did well in funny animals.

CONAN #24—I had to choose one Barry Smith book for revitalizing fine art comics in the '70s.

GIANT-SIZE DC #1 [sic]—I don't know the title of this book, but it's from the late '60s or early '70s and has around six silver-age superhero origins.

DR. STRANGE #1(1974)—Brunner taking one step further in bizarre storylines.

BRYAN WESTER—Surfside, SC.

I'd like to place a nomination for my favorite: **FLASH COMICS #5** for the Shelly Moldoff **Hawkman** back-up story. The simplicity of the ten-page story has a medieval quality—a damsel in distress, an evil monarch, and a hero who saves the fair damsel and ends the tyranny of the evil ruler forever. Shelly Moldoff's art style is so vivid that you can feel the action. I can remember very few back-up stories that reflect the true spirit of the Golden Age as well as this one does. It's a shame that a vast amount of excellent stories of the Golden Age, and today, go virtually unnoticed because they are only back-up features (I'd like to point out that the **Hawkman** story was reprinted in Jules Feiffer's **THE GREAT COMIC BOOK HEROES** along with a dozen other classics of the Golden Age.

MARK DAVID DIETZ—A.P.O. New York.

There are certainly a number of books I've read over the years that would qualify for **Hall of Fame** status. But when it comes to series books, I can't remember the difference between **#108** and **113**, no matter which I enjoyed better. So I thought I'd spotlight some special books that aren't particularly super-hero/hot sellers

I've been collecting Alex Toth for some time now. Certainly, Toth is not the type of artist one whould ever regard as a hack, so choosing his best issues is a difficult proposition. And yet, certain stories stand out in my memory.

HOT WHEELS #5, "The Case of the Curious Classic." I've spent the past year sporadically working on an essay on this little gem (to be subtitled "Alex Toth Takes Us to the Movies"). From the opening three

pages that successfully convert the now standard car chase scene from film into the comic-book idiom, to the tension etched into "Huff" Braden's face as he relates the tale of the priceless Cord, this story is a classic. This issue and not the subsequent Adams issue is the high point of this brief series.

Red Circle's **SORCERY #9**, ". . . If I Were King." Like the preceding story, this one showcases Toth's mature style. The script is wonderful, and Toth pulls every bit of detail and texture he can out of the life of a meek, little accountant who wishes he could be exactly like "King" Cade, a talk-show host. His wish is granted by Leonora, a neighbor who just happens to be an old gypsy woman, and, of course, he quickly wishes to return to his old form. The last two panels of the story are gorgeous: our little accountant is walled in by the newspapers of his fellow subway commuters and seems as much as ever a plaything of the whims of fate—no matter that they appear to have blown in his favor.

OUR FIGHTING FORCES #146, "Burma Sky" Dedicated to Bert Christman, Jerry DeFuccio, Johnny Severin, and "Tiger" buffs, this comic demonstrates quite clearly why Toth is considered one of the greatest comic-book artists of all time, and, at the same time, why he will probably never produce a great work of art like Krigstein's "Master Race" or Kurtzman's "Corpse on the Linjin." At least Pappy isn't grinning as smugly as Captain Paladino did in the last panel of "Thunderjet." A great story, nonetheless, and this issue even has a Severin **Losers** tale in it. "Burma Sky" was recently reprinted in **DC SPECIAL BLUE-RIBBON DIGEST #7**.

Toth collectors might want to note the following: Avoid the **HEROIC COMICS**; these are for only the most avid collectors and the **GUIDE** is grossly incorrect in the credits it lists for them. Buy the westerns! I don't think Toth has done a bad western in his entire career. However, watch out for some of the odd-title Dell westerns, as these have four-pagers that are good but not the meat and potatoes of a full-length story. **ROY ROGERS, Johnny Thunder** (in **ALL-AMERICAN WESTERN**) and (wow!) **FRONTIER DOCTOR** are all good titles. The **FOUR COLOR** film books may disappoint many. They are scratchy, rushed, and, often, as close to hack work as Toth ever came. And don't miss the **Danny Dreams** story in **TOR #3** or the **Bravo For Adventure** two-parter in **ROOK** Magazine.

ALAN R. BIENVENUE—Chicopee, MA.

I'd like to nominate the following comics for the **Hall of Fame**. I'm limiting my choices to those comics I've collected over the last 22 years. I think each story holds up after repeated readings. How many of today's comics can make that statement?

My choices are:

AVENGERS #181, "On the Matter of Heroes" by David Michelinie, John Byrne and Gene Day. Cover by George Perez and Terry Austin. The Avengers line-up is pared down by government order. This issue has a fantastic group portrait cover. A great exchange between Wonder Man and Beast on the subject of super heroing, and my favorite comics double entendre (the Wasp to Yellowjacket: "Why, just think, when I come home after a hard day of Avengering, how much fun it'll be...getting reacquanted!")

DAREDEVIL #7, DD versus Namor. Story by Stan Lee, art by Wally Wood. 'Nuff said.

FANTASTIC FOUR #41-43. The definitive FF versus the Frightful Four story. Thing is brainwashed by Wizard and helps capture Reed, Sue and Johnny. The best fight-scenes of the story are in **#42.**

JUSTICE LEAGUE #37 and **38**. The JLA-JSA team-up that leaves the JLA out until the next-to-last panel in **#38.** Johnny Thunder's Thunderbolt un-creates the JLA by tampering with their origins. T-Bolt is under the command of Johnny's evil Earth-One counterpart. A showcase for Doctor Fate.

SUPERMAN #167, "The Team of Luthor and Brainiac." Superman's powers are destroyed (by guess who?) and he is reduced in size (by guess who?). A great story, and a history of Brainiac are the features here.

MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #60, "Happiness is a Warm Alien" featuring the Thing and the Impossible Man. An off-the-wall classic drawn by Perez and Day. The sight-gags alone make this a must. A laugh riot!

ADVENTURE #365 and **366**. A **Legion** classic. The Fatal Five escape from an inter-dimensional limbo by conquering Shadow Lass's home world and trapping the Legion team investigating the situation. My favorite **Legion** story.

Harvey's **SPIRIT #1.** What can I say about Will Eisner that hasn't already been said? This one is loaded with classics— "Lorelei of Odyssey Road," "Carboy T. Gretch/Cranfranz Qwayle," "Miss Cosmek," "The Story of Rat-Tat," "Ten Minutes in a Man's Life," "Gerhard Shnobble." Do what I do—just sit back and enjoy these stories time after time after time (if you own a copy, that is).

BRAVE AND BOLD #62, "The Big Super-Hero Hunt." Purely a sentimental choice, this one features Starman and Black Canary of the JSA and art by Murphy Anderson. Wildcat guest-stars.

FANTASTIC FOUR ANNUAL #17. Simply the best **FF** tale of the year. I have a feeling this one will be considered a classic in a relatively short period of time. My thanks to John Byrne for restoring some of my faith in mainstream comics. (I haven't had much to cheer about for the last couple of years.)

Honorable mentions: **JUSTICE LEAGEU #21** and **22** (first JLA/JSA team), **HERCULES** mini-series; **ADVENTURE #359** and **360**; **SUPERMAN #166** ("The Sons of Superman"); **ACTION #305** ("Why Superman Needs a Secret Identity"); **GREEN LANTERN #86**; **AVENGERS #58**. **X-MEN #141** and **142**; **HEMBECK 1980** (especially "The Newlywed Game").

HUMOROUSLY SPEAKING

By Steve Rowe

Archie Comics

If you admit that you buy or collect Archie comics, then you'll probably get strange looks from fellow fans. Unlike most fans, you can't rationalize buying Archies as being intellectual stimuli or even an investment (your Archie will be worth in resale value the price you paid for it in five to ten years); so you just have to face up and admit that you enjoy reading them. Of course, "real" fans don't enjoy reading comics, so you'll have to suffer in silence, or laughter.

But what of those of us who are not fans or fringe fans, or who have never heard of Archie? What is an Archie? And if you've guessed that that is what I'm going to talk about, go to the head of the class.

Way back in 1941, Archie the character was created by either a) publisher John Goldwater, b) editor Harry Shorten, or c) artist Bob Montana—all depending on your definition of "created." This first story, which starred a thirteen-year-old Archie Andrews, can be found in the trade-paperback collection **THE BEST OF ARCHIE** (Perigee Books, 1980, $7.95). Archie and friends are now high-school seniors (not bad—aging four years in forty) at good old Riverdale High. Archie's life revolves around his friends (male and female), and, as in real life, the only adults are his teachers and other adults at school plus his parents. The stories revolve around typical high school hi-jinx and dating. The primary audience for Archie seems to be females aged eight to eleven. I once wrote an article on the appeal of Archie to his audience, with explanations as to the roles each character played (I used to be a therapist, ya know), but the question here is whether Archies are suitable reading material for the average **TCR** reader. (My guess is that most of you/us are male, probably fifteen to twenty-two.) They probably aren't. Most humor collectors are older individuals, or so the stereotype I've seen goes, but if you want to check out an Archie comic try the digests, which are inexpensive compared to the amount of story you get, and the small size does not hurt them too much. Current digests include **ARCHIE ANNUAL** (twice yearly), **ARCHIE...ARCHIE ANDREWS WHERE ARE YOU?, ARCHIE COMICS DIGEST, ARCHIE DOUBLE DIGEST, BETTY AND VERONICA ANNUAL, JOKE BOOK ANNUAL, JUGHEAD JONES, JUGHEAD WITH ARCHIE, LAUGH** and **LITTLE ARCHIE.**

LAUGH COMICS DIGEST frequently includes non-**Archie** material, including **Super Duck, Katy Keene, Pat the Brat**, and has reprinted the entire **Cosmo the Merry Martian** saga. All the digests are reprints.

ARCHIE is the line's flagship title. Stories are by long-time writer Frank Doyle and the art is by Dan DeCarlo, who is the main artist. **ARCHIE AND ME** is about Archie and his principal, Mr. Weatherbee. Bob Bolling is the current writer/artist. **ARCHIE AT RIVERDALE HIGH** is an adventure title, concerning Archie's trials and tribulations at school. New writer is Rich Margopoulos, penciler is by Stan Goldberg. The **ARCHIE GIANT SERIES** is kinda like Dell's old one-shot/four-color series; **Little Archie, Sabrina** and **Josie**, strips which were formerly separate titles, are now a part of this series. **ARCHIE'S PALS 'N' GALS** is about (what else?) Archie's pals and gals (does anyone still use the term "gals"? Or is that sland that never took root down here in the southland?) There are no regular writers or artists. **ARCHIE'S T.V. LAUGH-OUT** (the title was inspired by the 1969-73 TV show **ROWAN AND MARTIN'S LAUGH-IN**) contains a TV parody by Berdej and DeCarlo, **Sabrina** by various people, **Little Archie** by Dexter Taylor, and **Josie** by various creators—a sampler title. **BETTY AND ME** features Betty trying to steal Archie away from Veronica; art is by DeCarlo. **BETTY AND VERONICA** is by Doyle and DeCarlo and is about both of Archie's main squeezes. **EVERYTHING'S ARCHIE** used to be the home of Archie's band; art by DeCarlo and Dick Malmgren. **JUGHEAD** is apparently attempting to return to its salad days: gone is Jughead's pin (which made him irresistable to women) and DeCarlo's art; back is the traditional artist, Sam Schwartz (one of my personal favorites) and Big Ethel (who is one of my least favorites). **LAUGH** features **Archie** series strips by various creators, as does **PEP**, which also contains **Marvelous Maureen**, a science-fiction strip by Lori Walls. **LIFE WITH ARCHIE** is an adventure book, wherein Archie gets involved with crime and danger. Most stories are by Doyle and goldberg.

Dan DeCarlo is the current main **Archie** artist. He is the artist who did the model sheets that set the standard for the way Archie and friends currently look. Before he came to Archie Comics, he was best known as the main artist for Atlas/Marvel's humor comics, particularly **MILLIE THE MODEL** during its humor period. At Archie, he started off doing **WILBUR** and later **JOSIE** before "graduating" to **BETTY AND VERONICA.**

Frank Doyle is the head Archie writer. Most of those reading his truly funny strips would never suspect that he is old enough to have grandchildren Archie's age. Before he began writing for Archie in 1951, he was an artist at Fiction House and Fawcett.

George Gladir is a writer who is the second-most frequent contributor. His work for Archie started in 1959, and he was the main writer of their titles **TALES CALCULATED TO DRIVE YOU BATS** and **ARCHIE'S MAD HOUSE.** He also was a frequent contributor to **CRACKED** in the '60s.

Stan Goldberg is another former Marvel artist. He replaced Dan DeCarlo on **MILLIE THE MODEL** in the late '60s and was also Marvel's head colorist in the '50s. His style is incredibly close to DeCarlo's these days, and he has done covers for DC's teen-humor digests in the last year.

Al Hartley was another Marvel staffer who drew **THOR, GIANT-MAN** and westerns as well as **PATSY AND HEDY** before leaving for Archie in 1968. At Archie, he has both written and drawn his stories. At one point, he wrote and drew a seven page story every day for months (resting only on Sunday). After leaving Archie in the late '70s, he has been occupied by being the sole writer-artist for the Spire-Christian comics, many of which feature **Archie** characters. He is also the only comic-book creator to have a mass-marketed paperback book published about his life.

Harry Lucey did the usual comic-book type work in the late '30s and early '40s, including DC's **Crimson Avenger** and very early **CRIME DOES NOT PAY** for Lev Gleason. After a stint doing advertising, he returned to comics in 1950 and for the next thirty years has done work for Archie Comics. Most of the **ARCHIE**s from the '60s to the early '70s are his work. He retired about 1980.

Dick Malmgren started out as a writer for Archie. His mid-'60s **JOSIE**s are signed "by Dick and Dan" (DeCarlo). Around the mid-'70s, he began illustrating his stories, which, in the eyes of this writer, lessen his contributions.

Sam Schwartz is best known for being the editor of Tower Comics, which published **T.H.U.N.D.E.R. AGENTS** and **TIPPY TEEN.** Before

that, he was art director at Archie, with whom he had been working since 1939. After the demise of Tower, he worked for DC for a short time on their late '60s teen humor line, then returned to Archie. He was absent after the "Archie Implosion" of 1982, but has recently returned to the title he is most associated with, **JUGHEAD.**

There are many other notable contributors to Archie, some of them now deceased, including Bill Vigoda, Joe Edwards, BobWhite, Bob Bolling, John Rosenberger, Chic Stone, George Frese, Jon D'Agostino, Sal Amendola, Neal Adams, Wally Wood, Adam Philips, Kurt Schaffenberger—the names continue. And Archie remains an eternal seventeen-year-old.

Other Comments

I'm sure some of you wonder why I didn't write instead of the biggest humor-news of the year—the return of **SUGAR AND SPIKE.** Well, you see, I am writing a rather long article on Mr. Mayer in celebration of his 50th anniversary of comic-book work. I've been privileged to see many of his earlier works— **J. Worthington Blimp** and the **Strange Adventures of Mr. Weed**, and his complete run as artist on **Bobby Thatcher.** I'm not sure if it'll run in **TCR**, as this will be a long piece, perhaps too long for this magazine, which must remain mostly news. Anyway. I know I speak for several generations of fans when I coangratulate Shelly Mayer on fifty years of comic books, as well as his "new" book. We look forward to fifty more years!

Corrections: In my article on Pines/Standard, I left out the graduation of **SPUNKY** from **COO COO COMICS** to his own title in 1949. As Stanley had left Spunky in favor of a dog named Hubert in his adventures in **COO COO,** I had assumed this was a different Spunky I was wrong

Also, I may be wrong about it being Bill Williams who is doing those **DENNIS THE MENACE** Sun days and the last few months of Marvel's **DENNIS.** Can anyone say for sure when Williams quit drawing **DENNIS?** Also, what was his last issue of **HAPPY DAYS?**

If you want to see this column continued or discontinued, let Jerry and Mike know. If you want to drop me a note, send me freebees, money, or job offers, drop a note to me at **63 Botany Woods, Hartsville, SC 29550.** See ya in the funny papers.

IN RETROSPECT

By Mark Rose

KENT BLAKE OF THE SECRET SERVICE
(Atlas, January 1953)

This series will be devoted exclusively to reviews of old comics: ones published in the '40s, '50s, '60s and even the early '70s, esoteric titles that no one ever talks about, classic comics that changed the industry, interesting comics that perhaps many people have never read but would like to, etc , etc. In some cases, as with this first installment, this will mean a review of a single issue; in others, such as next issue's, a whole run will be looked at, in this case **THE JOKER.** Back to the subject at hand.

This comic came out in the midst of the Korean conflict, and by this time Kent Blake had left the service domestically for the other service in Korea. The spy element still existed, but in the form of what was becoming a standard war-story format.

This comic comes in with four stories, three of them untitled, adding up to 23 pages of art and script, none of the stories being longer than seven pages. At first glance, the garish reds and blues that are used as predominant colors jar on the eyes, but then again, why not have a screaming Communist painted a bright red? As is standard with these unenlightened recruitment rags—read, I imagine, at night by eager young boys just waiting to get their hands on a rifle so they can blow the head off some fool enemy—they disgust me as a whole.

The antagonists are always presented as Neanderthal throwbacks, with unshaven faces and nasty eyes who never, **never** did a nice thing in their lives. But then, wait a second until I tell you what the **good** guys do at the end of the first story.

They're trapped by a Red patrol in this short-short, and they have to get back to HQ with information about Communist troop movements. So, inspired by one of his own men who likes to carve duck decoys when out on dangerous missions, Kent has his men set up decoys of themselves to lure the patrol into a sort of quicksand mudtrap. Once the patrol gets into the muck and find they can't get out, they begin to slowly sink in the mud, their weapons lost and fear in their eyes. But, not to worry—our very own good guys sit there and pick them off one by one. "Like shootin' ducks in a barrel!" Lovely.

After the obligatory moral prose piece, we come upon a story which is much more interesting. Captain Kent and his men are sent into enemy territory to bring back some important parts from a Mig, a suicide mission if there ever was one. The longest story in the book, it's a cut above the rest due to the fact that the enemies are hardly seen, only felt with the force of machine-gun bullets and flak. Quick-paced, with enough action to placate the diehard war-comic fan, and using a plot that could realistically occur, this untitled story is by far the best in the book.

"Death Map" has a North Korean agent who sacrifices his own life so that Blake and his boys can get a map showing Communist gun emplacements. Short, and deservedly so, since there isn't much story to tell.

The final story is cute, but perhaps overused. Relying on the old "it's the shell with your name on it that'll get ya" routine, Captain. Blake goes out with two hand-picked men to obtain a list of war profiteers (I wonder how many kids knew what that word meant). One of the men's names is Amenda, and as we are repeatedly reminded of the "shell with your name on it" schtick, we just know something's going to happen along the neat twist-ending line. And, by golly, it does. It turns out that Amenda's family manufactures Mig rocket shells in South America and sends them to the Russians, and, of course, that's what kills good old Lieutenant Amenda in the end.

So, **KENT BLAKE #11** didn't impress me very much. Its art, very heavy in the blacks, was dull, and at best, competent. The writing is so similar to other war comics that I begin to wonder if there was an Army manual detailing exact specifications for comic plots. Surprisingly, the final story about profiteers seemed to have a different writer. The dialogue was more detailed, more natural and much more readable than the collection of cliches so prevelant in the other episodes.

My recommendation: Only for collectors who don't read what they purchase.

WITCHCRAFT
(Avon, March-April 1952)

Replete with Joe Kubert and Sid Check art, at least according to the **PRICE GUIDE**, this premiere issue must have thrilled young readers of the time, and probably gave them horrible nightmares to boot. I can just imagine the number of enraged mothers who threw this rag into the wastebasket, proclaiming, "You will **never** read this kind of trash again!" "Aw, Mom, it's not that bad." And Junior's right, it's really not that bad, and runs counter to the oft-believed but erroneous fandom theory that

every pre-Code comic is bound to have lots of bondage, mutilation, and injury to the eyes. (Of course, this ish does have an "acid-in-face" motif, sorta.)

With some marvelously effective panels, "Heritage of Horror" comes off quite well, even in the story department. Julian Daniels is a painter, cursed by an ugly face (the thing I like is Julian is not handsome, true, but he is also not horribly disfigured. His homeliness can be found in the human race.) After buying a house in which to paint and forget his lonely life, he invites two of his friends over to sup with him. They are a beautiful couple indeed, and the plot thickens when it is revealed to the reader that Julian loves the girl (Vivian) and is almost violently jealous of the man who married her (Jack). The next morning, a tormented Julian can't get Jack out of his mind, and to obtain some satisfaction, he paints a picture of Jack being hit by an automobile. That night, a frightened Vivian calls Julian over because her husband has not returned home at the usual time. You guessed it—he's been hit by a car.

Wondering about this astounding coincidence, Julian rushes home and paints a self-portrait with a difference. This time he's the most handsome man in the world. Quickly producing another work of Vivian and him hugging and in love, he runs out to find his blonde beauty. Short stories mean shortening of important story focal points, and it's the same here. One second after Julian (now rechristened Bob Richards) bumps into Vivian, she says in her most intelligent voice, "I-I'm Vivian Clayton, and I'm awfully glad you came to this town! You're a fascinating man, Mr. Richards!" So fascinating, in fact, that at dinner on the very same night, she proposes marriage.

But one morning and weeks after their happy honeymoon, Vivian decides to go into the room that Rob/Julian always keeps locked, and there she finds all the paintings that Julian had created for his new life. He stumbles into the room to find that she now knows the truth, and he watches, horrified, as the angry Vivian rubs turpenttine on the Rob Richards painting. As the paint solvent eats into the canvas, we see Rob/Julian's face being eaten away and he dies as his greatest masterpiece is destroyed.

In "Devil-Music" a young singer named Hene Crane finds some music in an abandoned dressing room, and she decides to play it on the piano. A Mr. Mammon appears and offers her twenty-five years of fame if she signs a certain contract. Well, come on now, we all know what's going on here, don't we? Of

© 1952 AVON PERIODICALS

course, Mr. Mammon is the Devil, and he gives Helen 25 years of fame, and then takes her soul on the final day of the contract. And, as usual, the sheet music she used originally to call him falls into the hands of another young singer with a burning desire for fame. Pretty much ho-hum fare, except for the fact that in one panel Mr. Mammon looks remarkably like Vincent Price.

"This Ship is Doomed" is a rather trite story which just doesn't belong in the same category as "Heritage" and not even with "Devil-Music." Using the age-old sailor's yarn that if the Captain's wife or daughter travels on the ship, disaster is bound to occur, we see lovely Nina voicing these fears to Ned Carse, the ship's radioman. He of course pooh-poohs any such nonsense, and even harrumphs at a bright green-faced man who calls himself Dr. Barton and who has brought a coffin on board. In due course (sorry about the nautical pun), it turns out that Dr. Barton is actually the corpse of Captain Farl, who brought his wife onto his own ship, the Southern Cross; neither the ship nor the Captain's wife survived the subsequent rainstorm. He has come back to kill Nina so the ship will be saved, but Ned interferes at the stroke of midnight, and Farl disappears into thin air. As the storm dies down, Nina's father says to the sea (and the phantom of Capt. Farl) that he will put into port and transfer Nina to another ship.

Now folks. I don't even understand the last story, "Vengeance of the Ouanga." It concerns a black-hearted pirate, Jean La Plante, who is condemned to die at the gallows. Now, for some reason, La Plante wears a good-luck charm called an ouanga, which is, get this, a skeletal forearm and hand which hangs from a necklace and points straight out from the man's sternum. Yeah, right. When La Plante has the noose placed around his neck, he asks Ouanga to help him bring vengeance on the people who are ending his life. (Remember that, it's important.) A few weeks later, the judge is killed by a demon which transforms himself from La Plante into a wild-haired strangler. The body is never found. Then the hangman and the colonial governor who refused to give the pirate a pardon are likewise killed. Fishermen who go near Ghost Island (where La Plante's body was buried) one day saw the giant head and hands of the demon supporting four ropes from a marionette platform. Hanging at the end of three of these ropes were the judge, hangman and governor, while the fourth was empty. Now, all of this above story has been narrated by a New York newspaper writer, and he's trying to find a boatman to take him out to the island so he can write what happens during the night.

A man, suspiciously dressed in a green cloak which hides all of the face, agrees to help him, saying that he knows nothing of the island legend, having just travelled from another district. As Ghost Island comes into the writer's sights, the boatman reveals himself to be the La Plante demon, and he kills the newspaperman, hanging him on the fourth empty rope. Why?? What possible connection did this poor man have with the three men who killed La Plante (an event which happened back in the French Colonial days)? Sorry guys, seems like shoddy writing to me.

My opinion: The first story is great, and it descends from there into wild silliness with the Ouanga episode. Of course, then again, it may be worth the purchase price simply to see the bony forearm and hand protruding from La Plante's chest like some sideshow attraction. Strange.

SGT. FURY AND HIS HOWLING COMMANDOS #57
(Marvel, August 1968)

Alright, you lily-livered bunch of mindless yahoos, this Sarge Fury comic ain't so bad after all, ya hear? Yeah. Well. I've always had a fondness for the cigar-chomping leader of the Howlers, especially in his role as an agent of SHIELD, and this particular issue is representative of the Sarge and his band as a whole. In other words, nothing special (though Hitler does make a three-panel appearance, for you collectors), just a typical story that comes off as light, entertaining war-fare.

This twenty-page story features art by Tom Sutton and John Severin, but looks suspiciously like Severin's solo work. Gary Friedrich's story, "The Informer" places Nick and his men in the heart of Germany (Stalag Thirteen, to be exact) and their presence is required to aid in the escape of previously-captured and all-around good-guy, Jim Morita. (Surprisingly enough, they don't meet up with Colonel Hogan and his men, nor is there any Commandant Klink to push around. The German officers in this episode are much more nasty, and not half as funny.)

The commando team parachutes down near the camp's border fence and they are spotted instantly. Unfortunately, as in far too many comics, the heroes prattle endlessly and improbably on about how they took out this man with a trick they saw in the movies, how they should hire German guards for last-word scriptwriters, etcetera-yawn-etceteera.

Once the location shifts inside the camp, the story perks up considerably. After a particularly effective scene of a foiled escape attempt, it is discovered that an informer is telling the Krauts when and where escapes will be made. Everyone accuses Capt. Tim Corbett, the ranking officer of the prisoners, because he has admittedly buttered up the Germans just a trifle. After breaking Sarge out of the sweat box where he was incarcerated, the Howlers and the rest of the prisoners rush some slow guards, take their weapons and attempt to break out of the camp! (Hey, this is just a gravy run for these guys.)

As they rest in the woods after their successful exit from the POW camp, it is revealed that the traitor was not the good Captain, but another soldier with the name of Bodenschatz. They find him out when he refuses to drink after a Negro has taken water from the same canteen. So, an interesting ending, but the story does leave two important questions.

One: Why does the cover show Sarge and his men breaking out of the prison camp with a set of wirecutters when they actually drove out in a truck? And two: From the dialogue in the wrap-up, it was obvious that Fury and Corbett knew that Bodenschatz was the traitorous informer, but how did they cook up their plan to catch him? There was really no time to indulge in tricky scheme-planning, and did Gabe (the black man) know of the plan or not? Ah well, perhaps you can answer these questions in your own mind if you read the issue.

My opinion: Indifferent recommendation.

CEL BREAK

By Jim Korkis

COMING ATTACTIONS!

Kodansha, a Japanese film company, has already completed an animated adaptation of Rawling's Pulitzer-Prize winning story, **THE YEARLING.** The serial comprises fifty-two thirty-minute episodes. English dubbing of the film was completed in April, 1983 at the Los Angeles studios of M-G-M which is also responsible for marketing the film in the U.S. and Europe. Work is already underway on Kodansha's follow-up project, a two-hour full-length animated feature based on Edward E. "Doc" Smith's science-fiction story **LENSMEN,** scheduled to be shown in the spring of 1984. (They are also working on a sequel to this project which will be a television series of thirty-nine thirty-minute episodes.)

WALTER LANTZ, THE ACTOR!

Coming up in one of the new episodes being filmed of **TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT** will be an appearance of Woody Woodpecker's daddy, Walter Lantz, playing the part of cartoonist Walter Lantz, who is, supposedly, a good friend of the cartoonist character played by Ted Knight.

TIN TIN FESTIVAL!

The National French Language Channel will be running a Tin Tin Festival every Saturday starting in December 1983 and finishing in March 1984. The first segment was a documentary on Herge and Tin Tin while following segments featured Tin Tin's animated adventures.

HELP WANTED!

Comic Reader Douglas Orlowski, who frequently sends letters filled with animation news for this column has a question. He keeps seeing something called **MURUN BUCH-STANSANGUR**: unconventional British cartoon with a smelly hero" and wonders if anyone has any further information on this cartoon.

THE DUCK FACTORY!

Animation fans are excited about the new television series to premiere shortly on NBC. Entitled **THE DUCK FACTORY**, the action takes place in an animation studio. Executive producer is Allan Burns, who not only contributed excellent material to the old **MARY TYLER MOORE** and **LOU GRANT** shows, but used to work as a writer at Jay Ward's Studio while it was producing **BULLWINKLE.** Apparently, the imaginary animation studio has a character named Dippy Duck (designed by animator and animation historian Mark Kausler), who is transformed by a hotshot young animator into Star Duck, a Saturday-morning superstar. Cameos by voicemen Don Messick (Boo Boo, Scooby Doo, Papa Smurf among thousands) and Bill Scott (Bullwinkle, Dudley Do-Right, Mr. Peabody) are already scheduled.

BAD NEWS DEPT.

Despite the repeated efforts of author Jerry Beck, Scarecrow Press has no plans to issue an updated, revised and illustrated edition of the book **THE WARNER BROTHERS CARTOONS.** Apparently, the company doesn't even wish to discuss the possibility of printing a **corrected** edition for at least two years.

POPEYE TAPE PULLED!

Despite being advertised, the **BEST OF POPEYE** tape compiled by M-G-M/UA Home Video will never be released. There seemed to be some confusion over the rights to the films that were selected.

TOM CARTER PRODUCTIONS IN TROUBLE!

Despite all of the advance promotion for Tom Carter Productions and their proposed project, **HUCK'S LANDING,** there have been some problems and to all intents and for all intents and purposes, the company will no longer be an active participant in the animation scene. Legal action is pending.

NEW AWARDS!

On January 20th, the Motion Picture Screen Cartoonists' First Annual Golden Awards Banquet will be held to honor people who have been in animation fifty years or more. The ceremony will be held in Los Angeles. Gary Owens will be the emcee. The banquet began as a gesture to heal the wounds of the last strike, and as a way for the union to honor some of its members and the industry. Thirty animation veterans have been chosen to be honored.

MANY THINKS.

As always, thanks to the Comic Readers who help supply information for this columns as well as notes of good cheer. Just before this column was typed, interesting letters came from Joel Thingvall, Christopher Cook, Tom Lapsley, Gary DeJong and Dennis Mount. Thank you, gentlemen.

Keep sending news, rumor and clippings to **Jim Korkis, 707 West Doran, Glendale, CA 91203.**

COMING IN JANUARY TO YOUR LOCAL COMIC BOOK STORE!

SAM SLADE'S
THE NAME...
ROBOT KILLING'S
THE GAME!

32 PAGES-FOUR COLOR-MONTHLY-$1-MANDO PAPER

N
G/F